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Our Paper

Maine's Lesbian and Gay Newspaper
Volume 9 ▽ Number 11 ▽ July 1992

HATE CRIMES

PROTECTION FROM HATE:
Those who would give it to you,
and those who would take it away

by Paul Lavin

Walking into the Portland Police Station a few weeks ago, I couldn't help think of the Stonewall Riots twenty-three years earlier. Stonewall came to mind because I was on my way to a meeting of the Bias Crimes Task Force of the Portland Police Department. Essentially I was going to listen to a cop talk about what the Portland Police Department is doing to confront bias-based crimes against gay and lesbian people and other minorities in the city. Since when, I asked myself, were cops in the business of promoting social diversity?

Twenty-three years ago, the New York police stormed the Stonewall in a routine raid to keep the fags scared and in line. Twenty-three years is a long time — a life time, in fact, for some of my friends. Certainly some things have changed. Yet I still wondered. I took my bearings again: police station decor, lots of people wearing blue and hip accessories. This was definitely a police station.

I don't know what the Portland Police Department was doing in 1969, whether it had a "round up and rough up the fags" attitude, but it certainly doesn't today. And it seems to be one man's job to make sure that Portland Police Department is gay- and lesbian-friendly. Some things do change.

Hatred on the Police Blotter

Lieutenant Mark Dion has been on the Portland police force for fifteen years. "Much to the chagrin of my father, he wanted me to be an attorney," said Lt. Dion. Father's dreams dashed, Mark started out as a

cop on the beat in the North Deering neighborhood of Portland where he lives today. Today he heads the Tactical Enforcement Unit of the Portland Police Department which includes the Bias Crimes Task Force. The Bias Crimes Task Force, established in 1988, is the first police agency in Maine created to specifically to respond to bias-based crimes and non-assaultive incidences, including those against gay, lesbian and bisexual people.

Mark began to be concerned about hate crimes long before the Task Force was formed. He saw that the ethnic complexion of Portland changing with the arrival of various ethnic refugees. "I had been monitoring the exponential growth of the refugee population in the city and it seemed to me that there were flash points occurring between the groups. Traditional neighborhoods were being challenged as far as how they viewed themselves in light of the intrusion, in their mind, by new types of people. Portland was not as homogeneous as it once was and the trend was growing that way." And as the ethnic and cultural differences grew, so did the "flashpoints" as Mark calls them.

A gay-bashing incident in 1988 was the "flashpoint" out of which came the formation of the Task Force. On November 4, 1988, B.J. Broder and another gay man were severely assaulted in Portland. It was a horrifying and frightening experience for them and the whole gay, lesbian and bisexual community. In other words, it was a typical gay-bashing. What was different about this incident was that B.J. and a

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An interview with Portland Police's Mark Dion, as well as a look at recent legal developments
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Ron McClinton,
1945 - 1992
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A humorous look at the recent
Maine Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
page 8

EDITORIAL

A Wink and Nod to Hate

Under the Supreme Court's recent decision on hate crime laws, a person could spray paint "KILL ALL QUEERS" on the side of the Limelight and be guilty of nothing more than vandalism.

The problem with the Supreme Court's decision, *RAV v. St. Paul*, is not that it declared the St. Paul, Minnesota, ordinance unconstitutional. As written, the ordinance was overbroad and vague. It put whole modes of speech in jeopardy which could, in fact, legitimately express social and political viewpoints. The problem is the Court gave new constitutional protection to the most dangerous forms of hate speech under the guise of preserving free speech.

Free speech should be free and flowing. No one should be forced to keep her mouth shut because she holds an unpopular or abhorrent opinion. Even if one thinks and says that all fags and dykes should die, she's entitled to think and say that in order to express her belief and perspective. However, when she adds other elements to her speech, such as threats, acts of intimidation, or influence over others to incite action, she steps beyond the arena where mere words and

opinion clash, and enters one where people clash and people die.

The five members of the Supreme Court who joined together in the majority opinion — Scalia, Rhenquist, Kennedy, Souter, and Thomas — gave a wink and a nod to those who would terrorize minority groups. Exhibiting an alarming blindspot, those Justices failed to see the difference between a threat and an opinion. A burning cross, with its history of intimidation and murder, is more than expression of a racist opinion. The boys who planted the burning cross on the lawn in St. Paul were not just expressing an opinion, they were threatening the Jones family with violence — maybe death — if the African-American family did not move out of the predominantly white neighborhood. "KILL FAGS" spray painted on a house is not simply an individual's opinion — it is a part of a greater, systemic hatred of gay men and lesbians. The spray painting and cross burning are points on a continuum of hatred that eventually culminates in terrorism and murder.

In spite of the disingenuousness of the Court's majority opinion, the St. Paul ordinance went too far in that it could be

construed to prohibit constitutionally protected speech. The expression of opinions hostile to particular groups of people would not be outlawed Big Brother-style. People can only change their opinions through dialogue and experience, not through legislation. The "marketplace of ideas" contains some very abhorrent commodities. However, in a society where speech is free, listening and adhering to opinions is also a matter of choice. The better approach to hostile speech is to educate the listeners. People must be made to see that hatred for any group will eventually diminish the society for all. When speech and expressive conduct are used as weapons, society can only act as it would in any case where the public safety is threatened by terrorism — to use the force of the law to stop the threat and punish the terrorist. ■

Our Paper

PO Box 737
Portland, ME 04104
207/761-0733

Purpose

▼ *Our Paper* is published monthly by a dedicated group of unpaid volunteers. Our purpose is to offer a voice for Lesbians and Gay men throughout Maine. *Our Paper* is dedicated to increasing awareness of gay and lesbian issues, offering support and affirmation as a community resource, and celebrating the diversity within our communities.

Editorial Policy

▼ We will consider for publication any material that broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing are those of the authors only. We will not endorse any candidacies for public office; however, we will educate our readership to all political opinions.

Editorials appearing in *Our Paper* represent the opinion of the Editorial Board as a whole.

Submissions Policy

▼ We request that all material submitted for publication be signed and include an address and/or phone number for verification.

We reserve the right to edit material as necessary, unless otherwise instructed. Within the pages of *Our Paper* articles may appear anonymously upon request. Strict confidentiality will be observed.

We welcome and encourage our readers to submit material for publication and to share comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us. Remember, *Our Paper* is *Your Paper*.

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GOOD COOKIN' KATAHDIN

Katahdin is within walking distance of most of Portland's gay night spots. The Limelight is a couple of blocks down on Spring Street, The Wherehouse and Blackstone's are a five minute walk away, and the Chartroom is right next door. So the next time you go out on the town, consider a stop at Katahdin — you can enjoy our Good Cookin', go out dancing, and not even have to move your car.

Our regular menu hasn't changed much over the past year, and for good reason. We believe that our customers have a right to expect certain dishes to be available to them when they come in. Appetizers on our basic menu include Lobster Spring Rolls, Grilled Duck Sausage served with Spoonbread, Shrimp & Corn Fritters, and Pan Fried Oysters with sour cream mustard sauce. As for salads, we regularly offer a Caesar Salad, a Caesar Salad with pepper grilled chicken breast, and a Garden Salad, which is served with all our dinners.

Dinners on our regular menu include Pot Roast, Pan Fried boneless Rainbow Trout, Crab Cakes, Medallions of Pork Tenderloin wrapped in Bacon, grilled, and served with Jalapeño butter, and many other innovative Maine dishes. We also serve two very popular pastas — an Angel Hair Pasta tossed with smoked cured ham, Crimini mushrooms, leeks, and cream. Both are available in full and half portions.

Our other menu lists the Chefs' Specials. It changes daily and reflects what we receive from the fishmongers, the farmers, and our other sources of fresh local produce. The Blue Plate Special, the Fresh Catch of the Day, and the Appetizer, Salad and Vegetarian Specials are included on this menu. There are two main reasons we have a Chefs' Specials Menu — we would be bored if we had to cook the same thing every other night, and we want to offer our regular customers something new to try no matter how often they eat here.

At this time of year we realize that many of you may be from out of town. If you're unfamiliar with the Portland area and don't know where we are, just close your eyes, click your heels, and repeat these words: "There's no place like Katahdin, there's no place like Katahdin." If that doesn't work, call us at 774-1740. We'll be happy to give you directions.

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Letters to the Editor

ACT-UP(set)

I have soul-searched for three weeks now, and conferred with other members of our group (The NAMES Project/Maine AIDS Memorial Quilt) as to whether this letter should be written at all. As you can see we have opted to go through with it.

On May 17, 1992, the annual Candlelight March and Memorial Service was held in Portland. It was well attended, and can be best described as an evening celebrating life and loving and letting go at the finest. There were several AIDS Memorial Quilt panels on display in the cathedral (St. Luke's) as well as a 12' x 12' signature panel.

A signature panel is one that is used by visitors to the Quilt to express their feelings to someone they have lost to AIDS, or just comment in general about their feelings toward the AIDS epidemic. A signature panel is usually part of all Quilt displays internationally. We are especially proud of our (so far) two signature panels with that incredible Quilted Heart painted by our own Jim Neal of Drop Me A Line. It is this signature panel that was on display at the Memorial Service that we write this letter.

There was a young man who decided to write a message on this panel under the guise of ACT UP. The message in content

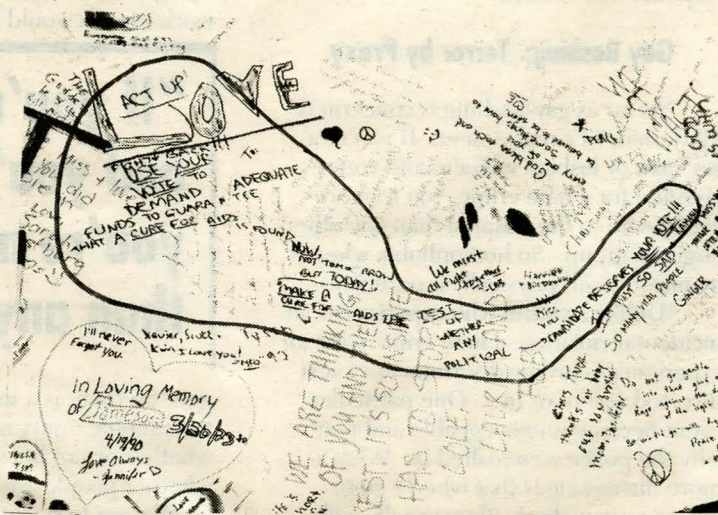
was fine. It was indeed angry and political, which we do not dispute at all. There are thousands of angry political messages on all the signature panels all over the world. Let me repeat, NAMES Projects around the world do not dispute this action, as there is no better place for such a statement than on the AIDS Quilt signature panels. What we do dispute, however, is when that message is written blatantly over several other messages to the extent that those other messages are no longer legible.

This particular action was thoughtless, inappropriate, irresponsible, and selfish. I would like to think that this was the action of a lone individual with his own personal agenda. However, since this was a member of ACT UP, the NAMES Project/Maine and myself in particular find it hard to believe that ACT UP-MAINE would approve of this action. We are now left with explaining to the hundreds of students we encounter in our travels around the state, why that message was written in the

manner it was, not to mention explaining to the family, friends and lovers of the messages that were violated.

The NAMES Project/Maine and International have always shown respect to all groups in the AIDS community, be they educational or political. All we ask in return is to be shown that same respect. We are all in this fight against AIDS together, otherwise we are all lost.

— David Ketchum
Volunteer Co-Chair
The NAMES Project/Maine



Signature panel with ACT-UP/ME entry.

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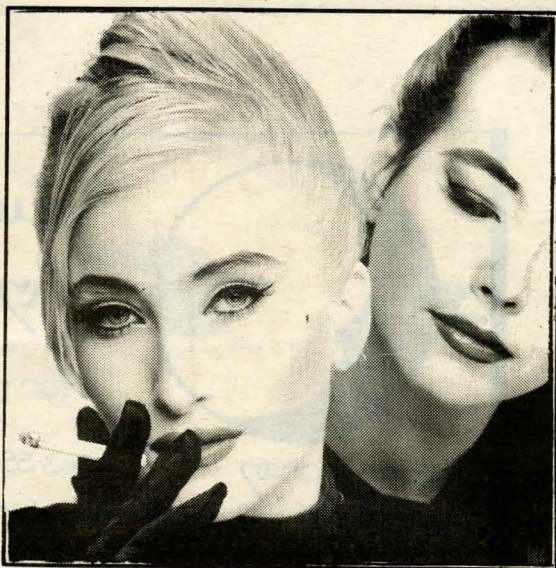
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NEWS

MAINE

PORTLAND HUMAN RIGHTS ORDINANCE: JULY UP-DATE

As was expected, the Portland Human Rights Ordinance, passed by the Portland City Council on May 11, will go to the voters in the November election. So-called Christian fundamentalist opponents of the ordinance, calling themselves Concerned Citizens for Portland, submitted more than 1,604 signatures to the city clerk. Of those 1,604 were certified as valid. Fifteen hundred signatures were needed to put the referendum question on the ballot.

Equal Protection/Portland, the group leading the effort to keep the ordinance alive, is preparing for a campaign to dispel the misinformation likely to be dumped on Portland by Concerned Citizens of Portland. The group has been meeting regularly since the ordinance was passed to establish the organization needed to win the referendum in November.

Spokespeople for the group agree that it is unfortunate that the question of minority civil rights should be put to the majority for approval. However, they are view the referendum as an opportunity to educate Portland about the need for the civil rights of gays and lesbians to be protected.

Over the past several weeks, the group has taken on the many issues that arise in launching a campaign of this kind. Legal alternatives to the referendum have been discussed. Various strategies for mounting the campaign have been proposed and voted on. Concerns about internal procedures and governance have been aired and a consensus reached regarding the structure of the group.

Equal Protection/Portland has established a regular meeting schedule and a number of committees to start work on the campaign.

The next meeting of Equal Protection/Portland will be on Monday, July 6 at the Matlovich Society Office at 72 Pine Street in Portland. Starting on Monday, July 13, and continuing throughout the campaign, Equal Protection/Portland will meet at One City Center at Expressions, a vacant retail shop.

All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. with a fifteen minute update and overview for first time attendees. The regular meeting starts at 7:15 p.m. and continues to 9:00 p.m.

The Monday night meetings are the "Home Base" meetings which is the source of community participation and direction for the campaign. Home Base meetings are open to any person committed to the campaign's success.

The following working committees have been established: Fundraising (contact Larry Bliss), Outreach (Rick Foss), Media (Bee Bell and Mary MacLean), Voter Registration (Edie Hoffman), Canvassing (Bob Gordon), Volunteer Coordinator (Bill York). Volunteers are needed for all committees. Equal Protection/Portland can be reached by calling 879-5360 or their information line 780-5656 or by writing Equal Protection/Portland, P.O. Box 1984, Portland, Maine 04104.

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NEWS

H A T E C R I M E S

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DRENCHED WITH PRIDE

About 200 people marched through torrents of rain on June 6th to celebrate Portland Gay and Lesbian Pride. The weather no doubt kept the number of marchers down. The participants lacked nothing in the way of enthusiasm though.

Starting off the parade was a proclamation read by City Councilmember Ann Pringle declaring June 6th to be Gay and Lesbian Pride Day in Portland. City Councilmember Peter O'Donnell, who introduced the Human Rights Ordinance, also spoke encouragingly about the upcoming referendum campaign. Other speakers included Brian Quint of Equal Protection/Portland and Rita Kissen of PFLAG.

Bee Bell of ACT UP/Portland also spoke and roused the soaked crowd. ACT UP/Portland had planned on performing a die-in when the parade reached Monument Square to call attention to the continuing AIDS crisis. However, the police informed ACT UP that anyone lying down in the street would be arrested.

The parade slogged down Congress Street to Congress Square where a very wet kiss-in concluded the event.

FIRST BANGOR PRIDE PARADE GREAT SUCCESS

The first gay and lesbian pride parade in Bangor on June 20th drew around 200 people from all over Maine. The parade marched through downtown Bangor and ended up in Davenport Park. Sen. Dale McCormick, D-Monmouth, addressed the crowd.

The organizers of the parade, Melanie Noyes, Jim Martin, and Sarah Lowden, seniors at the University of Maine were pleased with the success of the parade. Some spectators reacted negatively, but for the most part the onlookers were positive.

ED SHANNON APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AIDS RESPONSE OF THE SEACOAST

AIDS Response Of The Seacoast announced the selection of Ed Shannon of Ogunquit as Executive Director. Shannon, 46, brings to ARS extensive experience in government, private industry, community service, management, and fundraising. He was director of marketing for Secure Care Systems of Portland, Maine, which marketed products and services to the health care industry. He has been appointed by Maine Governor John McKernan as a member of the Maine AIDS Commission. He has lived in Ogunquit and the Seacoast area for ten years.

Shannon replaces Jerry Algozer who resigned in April to take a position in West Palm Beach, Florida. The selection completes a search process that brought in more than 80 applications from candidates from throughout the area and the nation.

continued from front cover

number of gay and lesbian community leaders took a stand with the Portland Police Department and demanded a change in the way the police treated gay-bashings.

In meeting with Chief Chitwood, representatives of the gay and lesbian communities said that treating these crimes as isolated assaults was not enough because these crimes are crimes against a whole community. A different response was needed.

Gay Bashing: Terror by Proxy

"As far as gay-bashing is concerned," Mark said, "it's real violent. If you're a gay man or lesbian woman, and you're targeted for a hate crime, you're more likely to go to the hospital than any other targeted group. So homophobia when it manifests itself physically is egregious.

"Unlike a victim who experiences an incidental violation, a hate crime survivor experiences chronic discriminatory acts directed at him or her. One particular event became unmanageable and that's why the police were called in. What's more distressing is that when I go to interview somebody, they usually will bring in a significant other for moral support, and that person will take me aside and say this kind of stuff has been happening to him or her, too. When you go to a robbery, the neighbors don't come in and say, 'That happened to me last week.' That's what reinforces in my mind that these are acts of community terrorism. Sure, they single out a person, but I think that when a gay-bashing occurs every gay person thinks 'Hey, that could have been me and not only that it was directed at me by proxy.

Mar noted that gay-bashings had another element not present in other hate crimes. By reporting a gay-bashing, a survivor opens himself or herself to a second assault by social stigma.

"I remember one case where a professional man met another young man and they had gone home together. He was violently robbed and stabbed. But he spent time in his room with a wash cloth on the wound trying to keep from bleeding out. He was troubled by two things: he'd have to tell the police he was gay and worse his roommates and work friends would know that he was

who was involved. I think I've been struggling as to why things happen and when you start to ask why, certain facts start to glare out at you. When the Task Force came into being, I sincerely believed then and now I am affirmed in that belief that people are assaulted and terrorized and that communities are terrorized because of who they are and who they represent."

This doesn't sound like the same kind of cop who would, paramilitary-fashion, raid a gay bar to keep the fags scared.

"If you're a gay man or lesbian women, and you're targeted for a hate crime, you're more likely to go to the hospital than any other targeted group."

A Thin Blue Thread

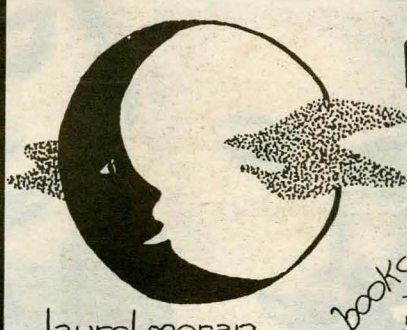
Mark doesn't view of the role of the police force as a para-military force which serves as a thin blue line separating and protecting the status quo from the great unwashed and unruly have-nots and unwanted. Not all officers share his view.

"I define police agencies as police services. [Many officers see] their primary mission as the application of the state's force on the community, and that's really not the case. Day in and day out we have very little to do with that application. More of what we do has to deal with order maintenance issues, more of what we do is to direct services

gay. So there is a man with a life threatening injury not worried about whether or not he was going to die but whether people are going to know how he chooses to be intimate with others. When you get right down to it we're talking about love. And here he is, just because he chooses to love people in a way that may not be consistent with other people's definitions, he was making a life or death decision."

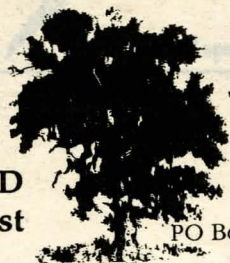
Mark's involvement with the Task Force and its mission conforms with his approach to being a cop. He doesn't have a simple "just the facts, ma'am" approach to being a police officer.

"I think that usually cops are trained to find out how things happened and



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PORTLAND

NEWS

from other agencies that come to bear on a particular problem.

"Usually the police center all our resources on the offender and the victim almost becomes incidental. That creates a lot of anxiety on the part of the victim. 'Offender acquisition', that's the product [that the police generally try to provide]. What we did with [the Task Force] is that we said let's do this differently.

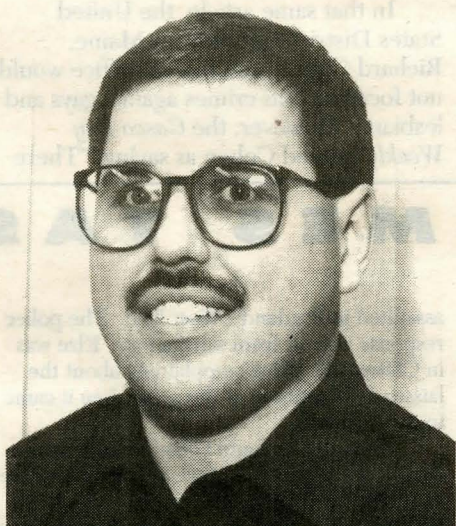
"We define the event not only as a criminal event. We see the individual who has been targeted as having been severed from the community and our job is not just getting the offender but it's also reintegrating the survivor back into the community. And in order to do that it can't just be a cop's response. The survivor has to perceive that there's a broad based coalition saying [to the survivor] that this event is an aberration and we won't stand for it and you are welcome in this community.

"When we're made aware of incident, we notify a representative of the Task Force who has a similar membership [in a minority group]. They'll go the survivor and help make a bridge for us." That bridge is oftentimes very necessary because the survivor may not trust the police or believe that anything can really be done. With gay men and lesbians, it's usually the former. The history of distrust between the gay and lesbian community and the police doesn't escape Mark.

"Because unfortunately for a lot of minority communities, be they gay, Hispanic or African-American, there has been historically an animosity between them and the police department. We have always been the conservative thin blue line that excluded people and preserved the status quo. Here we are in this unit saying that we are actually a thin

blue thread and we're supposed to be sewing everyone together.

"The community has to see that we've redefined ourselves. That's okay. If they've always been harassed by policemen and I come in saying 'Hey, I really care what happened to you,' they may think that's a little flip or insincere. That's why I need my counterparts on the Task Force who are members of minority groups."



Lt. Mark Dion

Fighting Hate With Education

Mark often says that, if people of would just think about it, they'd realize that they have more similarities than differences. The problem is that people — some people — don't think. Since the core issue is changing people's perspectives, I asked Mark how the police department and the Task Force was doing this. His response was "Education.

Education. Education."

Getting school kids from elementary school to high school to understand the dynamics of diversity and prejudice is, Mark says, the only way to make lasting changes within the community. "What I find is that these kids have a limited life experience as far as who and what kinds of people they've confronted. I've gone to some schools where the kids have said that they've never talked with a gay person. I said, 'Wait a minute, there's seventy-five of us in the room. I know that there are some gay people in the room. But they don't feel comfortable enough to tell you that. So they have to hide that from you.' Then I scan the eyes of the people in the room. I'm not sure if I find the gay people, but there are definitely some people who are touched by that."

Since most gay-bashers are not in school, I asked Mark how he would reach them. "The people we have arrested and identified as bigots or racists have been young people, 16 to 25, so there's hope that they'll change," he said. "But if a person is 38 years old, I don't know if we're going to change their behavior. I think what we need to change is their belief as to whether or not there will be a consequence to their acts."

A New Defense Against Bashers

On July 1, 1992, a new law became effective in Maine that should help make those consequences more real. The law, the Protection from Harassment Based on Characteristics Act, will provide a new remedy for people who have experienced harassment because of their membership, real or perceived, in minority groups. Courts will be able to issue civil

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PORTLAND ARTISTIC GROUP TO PRESENT BENT

Molly House Productions, a group of Portland-area gay men devoted to the advancement of local artistic endeavors, will be staging Martin Sherman's two act drama BENT, beginning at the end of this month. The play will run for six performances, July 31, August 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 at the Bookland Theater on Congress Street.

At a recent Matlovich Society lecture, writer and Nazi-era scholar Richard Plant described BENT as the play that "changed everything" about awareness of the Nazi persecution of gays. Set in Berlin in 1934, BENT is a story about love, survival, and gay identity in pre-war Nazi Germany. This staging is timely in light of the referendum on Portland's Human Rights Ordinance. It also marks the debut of Molly House Productions, a group with great hopes and plans for Portland's gay artistic base.

In a related event, the Matlovich Society in conjunction with Molly House will present a panel discussion linking issues concerning the ordinance, the play BENT, and gay history since the Nazi era. The panel discussion, "Gay and Lesbian History: A Continuing Holocaust?", will bring together a range of academics and activists with backgrounds in gay history to discuss the Holocaust as a metaphor for the continuing oppression of gay men and lesbians. The discussion will be held on Thursday, July 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Portland Public Library. (See calendar listing.)

PORTLAND GAY MEN'S CHORUS FORMING

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus announced initial formation plans for September. Under the musical direction of Bruce Fithian, the chorus will meet weekly in preparation for concerts that highlight standard repertoire as well as music that supports the gay community.

Auditions will take place in September. For more information, please call 839-4506.

This organization is meant to foster a positive image and source of pride for the gay community and offer an opportunity to work together in a spirit of fellowship.

Bruce Fithian has established an international career as tenor soloist with the Boston Handel and Hayden Society, Paris Opera, Academic di Santa Cecilia (Rome), Teatro Reale (Madrid), and has recorded for Columbia, Nonesuch, Erato, and Harmonia Mundi. Presently Associate Professor of Music at the University of Southern Maine where he teaches voice and opera workshop, he was the former music director of the Weston United Methodist Church and conducted the Boston Emmanuel Church Chorus.

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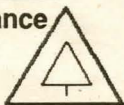
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NEW OUTDOOR GROUP FORMS FOR MAINE AND NH GAYS AND LESBIANS

"Time Out!", an outdoor group for the lesbian and gay community of New Hampshire and Maine has recently started up, according to Michael Rossetti, the group's organizer. Time Out's purpose, according to its newsletter is "to give gay men and lesbians equal freedom to enjoy sports and the nearby outdoors. Our goal is to instill personal confidence and encourage participation. The development of advanced skill in any sport is not required.

Time Out! events coming up in July are a hike up Arethusa Falls and Webster Cliffs in New Hampshire on July 5, a planning potluck on July 7, a Bath-Popham Beach Day on July 11, and a Mt. Battie hike on July 19.

For more information call (207) 883-6934 or (603) 749-1449, or write to Time Out!, P.O. Box 11502, Portland, Maine 04104.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY AIDS HEALING SERVICE

Families, friends, and those with HIV/AIDS are invited to share in a service of healing. A "laying of hands" ceremony will be offered to those who desire it for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

First in a series of healing services to be held throughout the state sponsored by the Bishop's Task Force in AIDS of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, the service will be held on July 11th, 5:00 p.m., at St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Windham, on the corner of River and North Gorham Roads. Wheelchair accessibility provided, assistance will be available for those needing it. For more information, call 892-8447.

REGIONAL

BROWN U. CENSORS PHOTOS

PROVIDENCE, RI — A Brown University junior has charged her alma mater with censoring homoerotic photographs in a student art exhibit so that parents visiting Brown's May 25 commencement wouldn't see them.

"This clearly is an example of censorship," said Jenny Fallensen, 21, a junior from Lexington, Nebraska.

"I am a lesbian artist. The work was important to me because I think it's the only work in the show that speaks to the experience of women that aren't heterosexual," she said.

Women's center director Elizabeth Weed, in a letter to Fallensen, said the picture shouldn't be shown on commencement weekend.

"There might be a way to present such challenging work, even at commencement, in a context that frames the issues, involved and where people knowingly come to see the material. Open hours at the Women's

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H A T E C R I M E S

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injunctions against people who have been found guilty of violating the civil rights of others through violence, threats or harassment. A violation of the injunction would have a criminal penalty attached. The procedure for obtaining a protection order under the new law is similar to that of getting a protection from abuse order.

There was some question about whether gay men and lesbians would be included under this law because the law does not list covered minorities. Originally, the bill did list minority classifications including sexual orientation. However, the list was deleted in order to win approval in the legislature.

Maine Attorney General Michael Carpenter said in an interview in *Casco Bay Weekly* said, "The statute talks about rights protected by the Constitution, and if you're deprived of one of those rights, by violence or threat of violence, we intend to pursue that — without distinction between ethnic rights or racial makeup or homosexual orientation." An article in the *Portland Press Herald* gave the incorrect impression that gays and lesbians would not benefit from the law.

In that same article, the United States District Attorney for Maine, Richard Cohen, said that his office would not focus on bias crimes against gays and lesbians. However, the *Casco Bay Weekly* quoted Cohen as saying, "There

should be no difference whatsoever in the aggressive prosecution of crimes, whether they involve ethnic or sexual orientation."

Supreme Court Undermines Hate Crime Laws

In contrast to the work that is being done in Maine to provide protection from hate crimes, on June 22, 1992, the United States Supreme Court struck down a St. Paul, Minnesota ordinance that outlawed certain forms of hate speech. The unanimous judgment has drawn sharp criticism from civil rights groups across the country. Law enforcement officials in Maine do not think that

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BIAS CRIMES TASK FORCE

The lesbian and gay community can take special pride in the fact that they were the prime movers of the creation of the Bias Crimes Task Force of the Portland Police Department. This wasn't something that some administrator thought up. It was a creation of community coalition-building and a lot of anger.

The jumping off point for the Bias Crimes Task Force was the gay-bashing of B.J. Broder in November 1988. However, the work that was being done in other areas of minority civil rights was the Task Force's foundation.

Diane Elze of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance and a member of the Task Force. She told me that the underpinnings of the Task Force really began forming in 1987. MLGPA was working with other minority groups on the Act to Revise the Harassment Law and the Act to Improve Collection of Data (on hate crimes) so that they would include sexual orientation.

Elze and other members of the lesbian and gay community were no strangers in Chief Chitwood's office. About six months before the Broder case, two lesbians were

assaulted in Portland's West End. The police response was far from satisfactory. Elze was in Chitwood's office complaining about the laissez-faire attitude of the cops when it came to gay-bashings.

That attitude hadn't changed any when Broder was bashed. In fact, at the time of the incident, Broder pointed out his assailants to the cops while the bashers were running away. The cops did nothing. Eventually, Broder went after them himself and the cops followed. This kind of inaction on the part of the police was typical in gay-bashings because, well, you know, the guy was queer and he must have been asking for it.

The lesbian and gay community was ripping. Enough was enough. Broder, Elze and others — Barb Woods, Frank Brooks, and Rex Beisel — met with Chitwood and demanded greater police protection from gay-bashings and, more critically, improved response on the part of the police. This double victimization was getting tired.

At one such meeting, Chitwood suggested that he and members of the gay and lesbian community meet on a regular basis. Elze proposed that, since other minority groups

experience the same kind of community terrorism, they should be included. This wasn't just a lesbian or gay issue.

Elze soon contacted the people from different groups with whom she had worked on legislation and the Task Force began to coalesce. The members of the Task Force went through training workshops on dealing with the effects of bias crimes on survivors. Police officers were sensitized to the issues of bias in the community. And they were brought face to face with their own prejudices. The Task Force developed procedures and policies for the police department in responding, tracking and monitoring bias crimes. Mark Dion, in charge of the Bias Crimes Unit of the police department, made rapid advances in making the Portland Police more responsive to the gay and lesbian, and other minority communities in Portland. His unit has been a model for the state and other cities in developing similar units.

Gay-bashers are still out there, but someone who has been bashed doesn't have to fear a second round from the cops — thanks to the Task Force. ■

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I N M E M O R I U M

K. Ronald McClinton

K. Ronald McClinton, 47, Portland resident and founder of the Matlovich Society, died June 14th of medical complications caused by AIDS.

Dr. McClinton was born in Selma, Alabama, the son of Mildred Robison and "JW" McClinton. He graduated from The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1969, enlisted in the US Navy in 1970 and served on a hospital ship off the coast of Vietnam. He was honorably discharged in 1976.

Following his discharge, he attained degrees beyond his BSN in Nursing — first in Hospital Administration and in Counselling from Webster College in St. Louis, then was certified at Richland Memorial Hospital School of Anesthesia in Columbia, South Carolina. From 1980 to 1984 he was the Director of the Mercy Hospital School of Anesthesiology in Portland.

In 1991 he founded The Society, an educational and cultural organization for gay men and lesbians in Maine. Ron couldn't bear the thought that the contributions of our pioneers and the story of our lives might be lost. And he had the vision to dream the dream, that has

become the Matlovich Society — and the persistence to nurture its growth. According to *Casco Bay Weekly*, writing in the wake of the recent enactment of a civil rights ordinance in Portland, "activists credit the emergence of the Matlovich Society as the key element in causing Portland's gay and lesbian community to become a genuine political force".

He touched so many lives and gave so much to so many. In his last days many friends — both new and old wrote to him to tell him of their love and affection — and the important role he had played in their lives.

What follows is part of a letter he recently received from a young woman. It meant so very much to him — and conveys the essence of what he saw as his life's "work".

"I was 22, new to the city, very closeted and extremely afraid when I attend my first Matlovich Society meeting. At the meeting my heart melted when I found myself surrounded by intelligent, attractive, proud and welcoming people. My life started changing for the better since that day... I have watched you from afar since that moment and felt such

gratitude, warmth and affection. I truly owe so many pleasures to you — coming out to my friends, discovering the supportiveness of a community, pride in my gay-ness and more. I hope it comforts and satisfies you that you have had such a profoundly positive influence on me and surely so many others."

Although he was not born and raised in Portland, after his retirement he returned to Maine to live the balance of his life. He often voiced that if one must be hospitalized, there was not a better nursing hospital than that run by the Sisters of Mercy in Portland. And he knew that facility well, having served there as Director of the School of Anesthesiology. And it was with his "family" at Mercy Hospital that he chose to spend his last days.

Surviving him are his "brothers" George McCrillis, Howard Solomon and Thomas Cathcart; his "sisters" Elizabeth Jamison, Lois Galgay Reckitt and Eloise Balasco; his faithful feline companion Miss Kitty; and his many many friends. ■
(courtesy Conro-Tully Funeral Homes and Lois Reckitt)

NEWS

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Center, on commencement weekend, where young siblings, older people, and a general public comes for varied purposes, do not provide that context," Weed wrote Fallensen, explaining her decision to remove the pictures.

The black and white photos show one or two women, sometimes fully clothed, sometime not. Those the university criticized pictured a woman in a chain-and-leather harness touching her nipple, a woman kissing the inner thigh of another woman, and the legs, pubic hair, and stomach of a woman in a chain-and-leather harness.

Fallensen said she would, if possible, file a complaint with the university because she believed the removal of the pictures violated a university policy against discrimination.

RHODE ISLAND SENATE REJECTS GAY RIGHTS BILL PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE HOUSE

PROVIDENCE, RI — The Rhode Island Senate has narrowly rejected a bill that would have given gay men, lesbians and bisexuals the same civil rights protections currently afforded minorities, women, and other groups.

The measure, which was defeated 25-23 June 9, would have prohibited the most discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, loans, and credit.

A measure approved by the House six weeks ago, which included a provision for public accommodations, remained alive in the Senate Finance Committee. But activists on both sides said it might not ever reach the Senate floor.

More than 100 activists filled the Senate chamber and the gallery for the vote. Opponents wore yellow patches with the gay rights bill number written in a circle with a line slashed through it. Supporters wore pink triangles and other pink buttons.

Julia L. Pell, the chief lobbyist for the Rhode Island Lesbian and Gay Alliance, said she was bitter.

"They can say what they want, but what it comes down to is being bigoted," Pell said.

LESBIAN MASTERPIECE THEATRE TOO MUCH FOR PBS

BOSTON, MA — WGBH-TV, Boston's Public Broadcasting System affiliate, has cut more than a half-hour from an upcoming *Masterpiece Theatre* production involving the lesbian relationship of British authors Vita Sackville-West and Violet Trefusis under pressure from PBS. "Portraits of a Marriage," a joint production of WGBH and the British Broadcasting Corporation, has already aired in Britain as a four-hour miniseries with little controversy. But PBS insisted WGBH produce and edited version with some 34 minutes of scenes involving nudity, graphic language, and romance between the two women. The edited version is also being offered to PBS affiliates out of concern the unedited version may be too controversial.

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NEWS

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GAY PUBLISHER TO RESIGN AND SELL BUSINESS

Sasha Alyson, the 40-year-old founder of Alyson Publications, announced that he is getting out of the publishing business, ending a 12-year stint as a pioneer in publishing gay and lesbian books.

Alyson told his staff earlier last month that he was putting the company up for sale and would be stepping down soon in order to devote himself to organizations which promote AIDS awareness and seek a cure. In a recent interview, he said he is still hashing out the details as to what he will do in the work of combatting the disease.

When Alyson started publishing in 1980, only a handful of gay books were published each month in the U.S. Since then, the company has grown to become the largest independent publisher of gay and lesbian books. The field of gay publishing has grown exponentially: by Alyson's estimate, two gay books will be published every day in 1992.

Alyson entered the publishing business to move gay books into the mainstream and to give gay men and lesbians a sense of literacy tradition, both goals he believes have been reached.

FAMILY — MORE THAN JUST A MARRIAGE LICENSE

What Makes a 'Family': The highest court in Massachusetts specified last week what it believes determines a significant relationship — and it's more than just a marriage license. The case involved a woman who left her job in one town to move with her partner of 13 years — a man — to another town more than 100 miles away. She couldn't find a job in the new town and applied for unemployment benefits. A state official denied her the benefits, claiming that, since she wasn't married to the man, she had no legitimate reason for leaving her job in the previous town. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court disagreed, saying that the officials had failed to take into account the women's "emotional and financial commitment to her partner."

Mary Bunauto, staff attorney for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders which submitted a brief on behalf of the woman, said the decision has the potential to benefit gay couples, too.

ONLY LESBIANS MAY ATTEND PROM AS COUPLE

Two Massachusetts girls have been blocked from attending their high school prom together because they aren't lesbians.

Kari Swendsboe, 17, asked her Dedham, MA, high school principal, Anthony Zonfrelli, if she could bring her girlfriend to the prom. Zonfrelli said she could if the two were lovers because discrimination against homosexuals is illegal in the Bay State. When Swendsboe said

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THE STRAIGHT & NARROW

Fifteen Hours in the Dark

by Holly Valero

I may as well confess right from the start that I love movies. You know that little crawl banner that goes across the screen right before the dancing popcorn on the Star Wars background that reads, "Movies are Your Best Entertainment!"? I wrote that. I've got a videotape stack at home that contains such delights as *Desert Hearts*, *Before Stonewall*, and *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*, happily mixed in with my Simpsons collection, Mystery Science Theater 3000 films, and a ten-hour *Outer Limits* Marathon.

I think of movies as a form of aerobic exercise for the emotions. Best of all, it's the kind of exercise that can only be performed by sitting quietly in a darkened room filled with hundreds of total strangers watching seven foot tall celluloid characters come within inches of true disaster — only to be plucked from the bowels of Hell by grit, luck, and providence. Or to be tossed into the bowels of Hell. It depends on the film.

The wonderful individuals who come together as Out and Out Productions deserve a bottle of the finest champagne and a community-wide congratulations for bringing to Portland, Maine, another terrific Lesbian and Gay film festival. From Friday night's kick-off at the Portland Museum of Art to rolling up the screen and flicking the switch on the worn-out projector at the Portland Performing Arts Center Sunday night at 10:00 p.m., the festival covered lots of territory:

Cooliest Name for a Movie Award

Khush

This 24 minute documentary mixed dance and dream-like sequences within the testimonials of South Asian lesbians and gay men in Britain, North America, and India. "Khush" (which means ecstatic pleasure in Urdu) captures the "blissful intricacies of being queer and of color."

The characters are honest, refreshing and remind us that America is, after all, just one of many countries.

All in the Family Award

Domestic Bliss

British TV's first lesbian soap opera is something of a hectic day-in-the-life sort of thing with Emma and Diana. One a doctor, the other stuffs envelopes. All the typical scenarios are there: kids, ex-husbands, crazy neighbors, and chaotic relationships. The best part of the movie, however, was that poor woman perpetually

intimate conversation between two men.

Two Films in One Award

Strip Jack Naked

I'm still trying to figure out where the two halves of this movie were supposed to meet. *Strip Jack* begins as a documentary of the making of Ron Peck's *Nighthawks*. The other half documents the process of growing up gay in London. The second part was better, though more depressing. I have my suspicions however, that the combining of the two elements was less artistic and more accidental.

"[Nice Girls Don't Do It] itself was worth the coming... so to speak, but I wish the action on the screen had shown more than one woman masturbating. As one person in the audience responded, 'Hell, I can see that at home!'"

trying to get across town with one child, one baby carriage, and a hapless bulldog. Her phone booth and escalator episodes alone were worth the price of admission.

Home Alone Award

Together Alone

We plummet into the lives of Bryan and Brian, two men who have just had an sexual encounter of the unprotected kind. Thus begins a long black and white conversation between the two of them. One definitely gay, while the other (we find out) is not what he seems to be. He is actually *bisexual* and married. The film has some tender scenes, some angry scenes, and a few scenes that could have been cut without destroying the film's essence. It makes up for its slightly long running time by offering something unusual to gay films — an 85 minute,

Best of Festival

Voices from the Front

This powerful film documents AIDS activism in a way that will make you want to chain yourself to your local court house. Those directly on the front lines of civil disobedience speak for themselves brilliantly and passionately. It was, in a word, *superb*.

People's Choice Award (Lesbian)

Justine's Film

Justine has seen her heart broken by a woman who will never return her love. She decides to take the cure from love and never fall again. Justine is delightful, the friends hysterical, and the dialogue both fun and funny. Canadian films always seem to be wonderful and this one didn't

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Babe

by Alan Stearns
(with apologies to Glenburn)

I was in high school in Old Town when Charlie Howard was tossed off a bridge in Bangor. I don't remember anything too clearly, just an assortment of news clips and cluttered images which ran around and around in my head. A man with a purse coming from a bar, beaten by kids my age and dumped in the Kenduskeag River to drown. The press never let you forget the purse.

The Kenduskeag River in downtown Bangor is a narrow channel which changes its image with every tide and season. At high tide in the summertime when I was growing up it was covered with an oil slick from the tankers on the Penobscot. At low tide there were storm sewers which splashed down onto derelict carcasses of grocery carts rising up from the mud. The carts mocked the modern sculptures that rose up from the nearby plazas. In the spring the river was a roaring splashy race course for canoes while in the summer its most noticeable function was the inadvertent transportation of cow manure from farms in Glenburn to the Penobscot River.

I pictured Charlie Howard joining the shopping carts in the smelly channels. And I think one of his attackers was from Glenburn. And I wondered what happened to the purse. Hardly images which encouraged me to address my sexuality.

One year after the murder there was a vigil planned at the bridge. I was working that summer painting dorm rooms at UMO. My colleagues were largely rural

folk with a rich appreciation for traditions of oral history who had preserved and even developed most of the more colorful Charlie Howard jokes. As the vigil approached, they eagerly anticipated the opportunity to drive by the bridge and see who had shown up with a purse.

My parents and a group from their church planned to go support the vigil. I refused to go. I could not. I stayed home terrified that any affirmative action on my

with men and women dancing and laughing and seemingly more friendly and balanced than bars in Portland. My perspective was warped by a pro-Bangor bias, a fresh exposure to what regulars may consider a tired old bar, and a bit of optimism, but I sensed that Bangor is ready to burst out of its bars and its closets. And it is happening. I missed the first annual Bangor Pride march, of course, but it was almost as big as Portland's.

"I pictured Charlie Howard joining the shopping carts in the smelly channels. And I think one of his attackers was from Glenburn. And I wondered what happened to the purse. Hardly images which encouraged me to address my sexuality."

part would lead to an erosion of the delicate personal balance I was working so hard to maintain. I especially couldn't risk being seen by the guys from work.

I've been at home almost every single summer since, but I still haven't made it to a Charlie Howard vigil. Few good reasons. A million excuses. I'm busy again this year, too.

Last month, for the first time, however, I did make it to the bar that Charlie Howard first brought to my attention. It has changed hands and locations several times since. But it amazed me. I was up from Portland for the weekend and was at the bar two nights in a row. It was absolutely jam packed

Some day I'm going to make it back to Bangor for Pride or Charlie Howard Day and march and send a message to some high school kid in Old Town that it is all right to be confused. And kid, if you are out there, there are no more shopping carts in the river and the cow shit and rednecks in Glenburn are being replaced by raised ranches and middle class queens.

And kid, the Pride march ended at the Paul Bunyan statue and some year I'm gonna hang a big momma purse on that statue 'cause I think Charlie Howard might have understood Paul Bunyan, who hung out in Bangor with a big blue ox named Babe. ■

NEWS

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she and her girlfriend are straight, Zonfrelli denied her request. He said the school's policy prohibited students attending without a date or single-sex couples. With the passage of the gay rights law, he interpreted the policy to permit same-sex lesbian or gay couples, but not heterosexual same-sex couples.

NATIONAL

DANNEMEYER OUR OF CONGRESS

LOS ANGELES, CA — A little-publicized side effect of the June 2 primary race in California is that, because he failed in his attempt to win the Republican race for the U.S. Senate, arch-homophobe Rep. William Dannemeyer will not be returning to Congress next year. The 67 year-old Dannemeyer, however, declined to speculate about his political future except to say, "I'll be around." But Dannemeyer has been extremely critical of President Bush, complaining that the president has allowed the Republican party to drift away from the fiscal and social conservatism that marked the opening years of the Reagan Administration. Unless Bush fires Office of Management and Budget Director Richard F. Darman and Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady, Dannemeyer hinted that he might oppose his party's presidential nominee.

GANNET SYNDICATING COLUMN ON GAY ISSUES

WASHINGTON, DC — Gannet News Service, which owns some 80 daily newspapers in the U.S., has begun syndicating "The Deb Price Column" by Detroit News writer Deb Price, an open lesbian in the paper's Washington, D.C. Bureau. The weekly column is already being carried in the Detroit News, Rochester (NY) Democrat & Chronicle, Des Moines Register, and three California dailies — the Palm Springs Desert Sun, Marin Independent Journal, and Stockton Record. It will also run occasional in USA Today, giving Price's column a prospective audience of upwards of 2.3 million readers.


HE'S A FAGGOT — LET'S KILL HIM

WINSTON-SALEM, NC — A gay man was the victim of a multiple shooting by three men, bent on killing him simply because he was a "faggot," according to Q-Notes, a Carolina gay monthly.

Marlon Evans said he was driving his car down State Highway 67 March 24 when three men in a fast-moving vehicle rushed past, slowed down, and positioned their car to block the road. When Evans stopped and then backed up in order to get around the vehicle, the three men jumped out, ordered him to stop, and then shot into his car.

Uninjured by any of three initial shots, Evans said the youths then pulled him from

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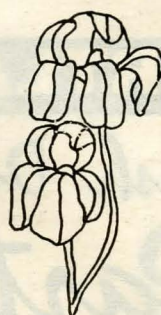
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July

Happy 2nd Anniversary to
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July 9 Thursday

The Matlovich Society presents "Li-
braries in the Defense of Intellectual Free-
dom." Sheldon Kaye; Executive direc-
tor of Portland Public Libraries will speak
on First Amendment and Censorship
issues. Portland Public Library 7:30-
9:00pm

July 10 Friday

Outright meeting space moves to 72
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Third Annual Northampton Lesbian
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July 19 Sunday

Tea Party / Live Music
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July 2 Thursday

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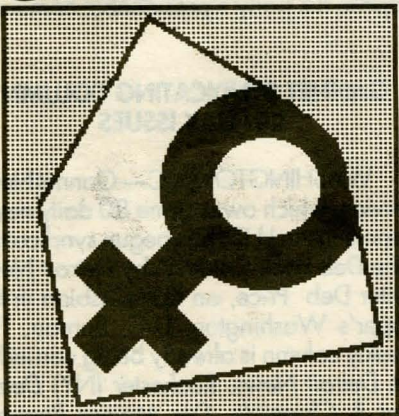
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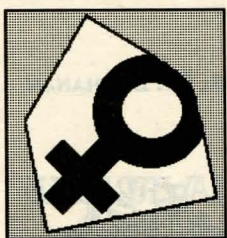
EQUAL PROTECTION

PORTLAND

Trash Disco Party

A Fundraising Event for
Equal Protection
Portland. Everyone
Welcome!

**SATURDAY
July 25, 1992
At the Wherehouse**
Suggested Donation \$5



Party to the best Trash
Disco all night long!

DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST	June 26 - July 2
MARQUIS	June 26 - July 2
MEDITERRANEO	July 3 - 9
TOTO LE HERO	July 10 - 16
DELICATESSEN	July 10 - 16
WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD	July 17 - 23
CLEARCUT	July 21 - 23
HOWARDS END	July 31 - Aug. 13

Waterville **RAILROAD SQUARE CINEMA** 873-6526

July Calendar

EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR:

August 11-16

Tuesday-Sunday

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.
Eat, Drink (or not) and Be Merry at one
of the largest Lesbian affairs in the World.
Call 616-757-4766 for more information.

September

The First Women's Mountain Bike Race,
sponsored by Lisa Vaccaro. Volunteers
are needed. Call 871-8965 for more in-
formation.

July 25

Saturday

Trash Disco Party to benefit Equal
Protection Portland!!!

Pull out the white suits and plat-
form heels. The Wherehouse, Forest Ave,
Portland, 8pm.

August 1

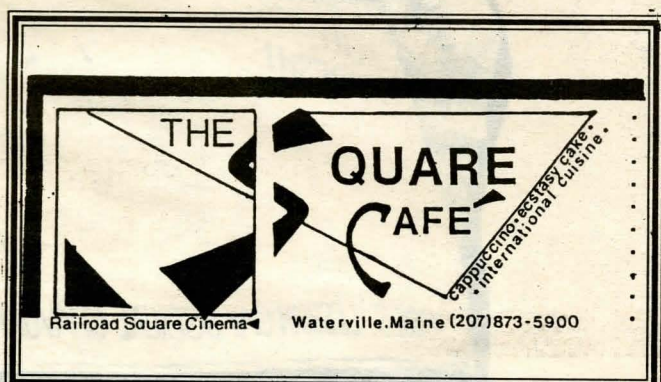
Saturday

Get Away! Paula Poundstone at the
Provincetown Town Hall at 8pm. Call
617-931-2000 to get your tickets.

August 2

Sunday

3rd Annual PWA Coalition Boat Cruise.
A 3 hour sunset cruise aboard Casco Bay
Lines to benefit The People with AIDS
Coalition of Maine & The Names Memo-
rial Quilt. Ticket price \$15.00. Call 773-
8500.



MOLLYHOUSE PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

BENT

The incredibly moving two act play by
Martin Sherman that relives the
holocaust and homosexual
oppression in Nazi Germany.

July 31-Aug. 9

Friday & Saturday at 8:00 pm

Sunday at 2:00 pm

at the Bookland Theater

Congress St., Portland

(formerly the Maine Savings Plaza)

Tickets- \$7.00, limited seating

call 774-2142 for more

information.

Mollyhouse Productions is a group of
gays and lesbians dedicated to the
education and enrichment of our
community through creative imagery
and gay/lesbian history. We are
proud to present *Bent* as
Mollyhouse's first production. Please
support us in these upcoming
benefits.

day of beauty
july 26 • 12-6pm

A benefit Cut-A-Thon at

Ferrante Hair Salon

30 Exchange Street

call 772-1212

Your days of beauty will be
everlasting and you can also prepare
yourself for a exciting night of pure
dance frenzy!

get bent now
july 27 • 9pm-1am

Dance your butt off at a benefit dance
for Mollyhouse.

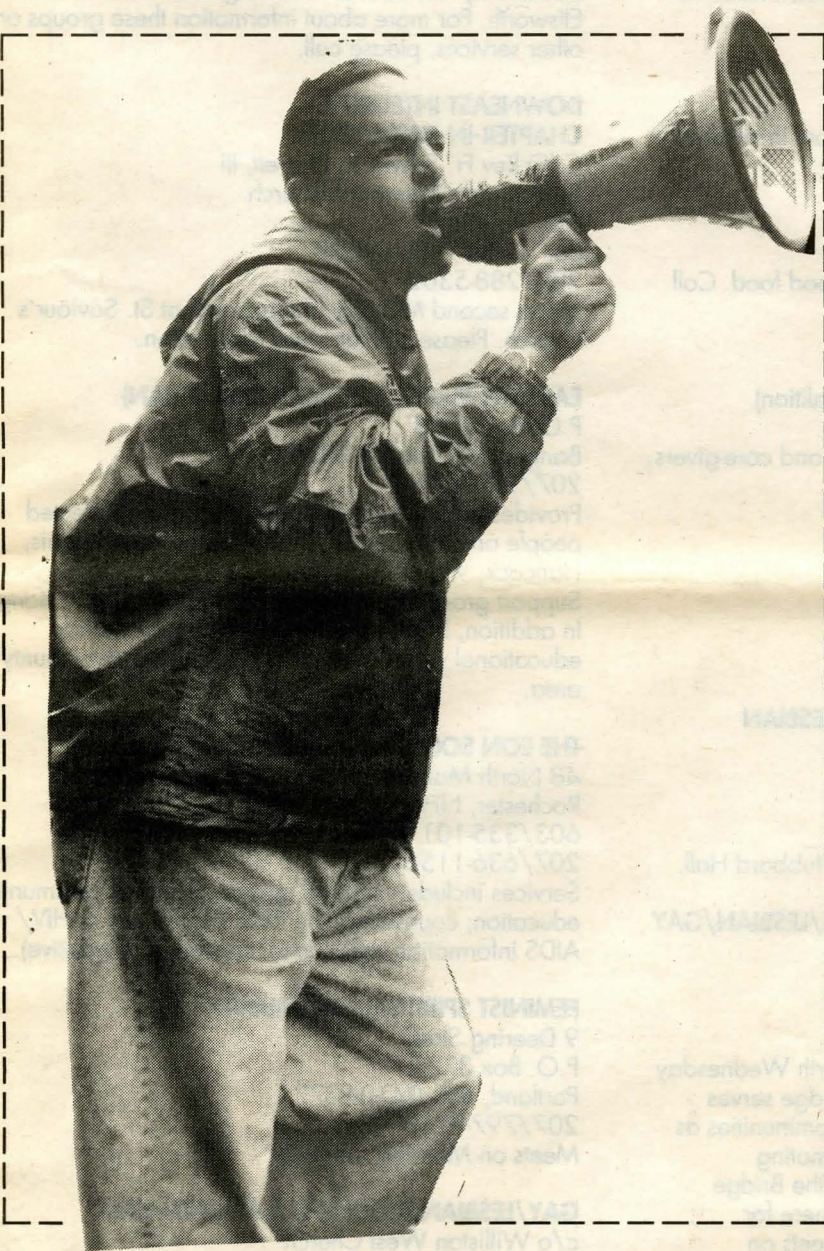
It's all happening at the

Limelight

3 Spring St., Portland

\$3.00 donation at the door

PULL OUT AND SAVE • PULL OUT AND SAVE



LESBIGAY NETWORK

SUMMER 1992

PULL OUT AND SAVE • PULL OUT AND SAVE

ACT UP/BANGOR

P.O. Box 1554
Bangor, ME 04402-1554
207/942-9343

ACT UP BANGOR meets Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm, Peace and Justice Center, 359 Main Street, Bangor. Please call for further information.

ACT UP/MAINE

P.O. Box 5267
Portland, ME 04101
207/774-5082

ACT UP/Maine is a diverse, non-partisan group united in anger and committed to nonviolent direct action to end the AIDS crisis. We protest and demonstrate, meet with government and public health officials, and research and distribute the latest medical information. We meet at 7:00 pm every Monday at 72 Pine Street, Portland (Andrews Square Building). New members are always welcome.

ACT UP/PORTLAND

142 High Street, Suite 222
Portland, ME 04101
207/828-0566
207/828-0566 3 * (fax)

ACT UP/Portland meets every Sunday at 7:00 pm at the YWCA, 87 Spring Street in Portland. For regularly updated information, please call our workspace.

THE AIDS PROJECT

22 Monument Square - 5th floor
Portland, ME 04101
207/774-6877

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS (ACOA) YWCA

87 Spring Street
Portland, ME 04101
Weekly open discussion with focus on Gay/Lesbian issues.

AIDS LINE

207/775-1267
800/851-AIDS
Monday through Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Monday & Wednesday evenings until 7:30 pm.
For questions or concerns about HIV/AIDS. Always strictly confidential.

AIDS RESPONSE OF THE SEACOAST

10 Vaughn Hall, Suite 3
Portsmouth, NH 03801
603/433-5377

A non-profit organization serving southern Maine and the New Hampshire seacoast area, we offer a variety of services to individuals living with HIV, ARC, AIDS, and related illnesses. Our services include but are not limited to buddy programs, advocates, volunteers, support groups, referrals, community education, and limited financial assistance.

AM CHOFSHI

P.O. Box 5017
Portland, ME 04101
207/871-1014 (Bob)
207/833-6004 (Susan)

Am Chofshi (Hebrew for "A Free People"), Maine's Jewish Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual chavurah, meets monthly to share Jewish holidays and to build community.

ANDROSCOGGIN VALLEY AIDS COALITION (AVAC)

P.O. Box 7977
Lewiston, ME 04240-7977
207/795-4019

Non-profit organization with the following goals: to provide community education about AIDS/HIV; to coordinate and support community-based services to people living with AIDS/HIV, their families and significant others; to assess AIDS needs in our communities and to provide a unified front on AIDS needs and issues; and to provide a forum for the exchange of support, professional skills, and technical resources. We have been meeting regularly at the Tri-County Chapter of the Red Cross in Auburn since late 1988, and welcome all interested parties to attend our meetings. For more information write or call.

BATES COLLEGE GAY/LESBIAN/ BISEXUAL/STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

Box 77
Bates College
Lewiston, ME 04240
Group meets Sunday evenings at 8:30 pm in Hirasawa Lounge, Chase Hall, Bates College.

BATH MEN'S GROUP

207/443-1211
Meets weekly for fun, fellowship, and good food. Call for more information. All welcome.

BELFAST AREA AIDS GROUP

207/338-1427 (Waldo Knox AIDS Coalition)
207/338-3135 (Alan)
For PWA's, HIV positive, family, friends and care-givers. Call for more information.

BOTTOMS-UP

c/o The Norsemen
P.O. Box 56
Chocorua, NH 03817
603/367-8304

BOWDOIN COLLEGE BISEXUAL/GAY/ LESBIAN ALLIANCE FOR DIVERSITY (B-GLAD)

Moulton Union Information Desk
Bowdoin College
Brunswick, ME 04011
Group meets on Wednesday at 9 pm, Hubbard Hall.

THE BRIDGE (COLBY COLLEGE BISEXUAL/LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY)

c/o Student Activities Office
Colby College
Waterville, ME 04901
Informational phoneline second and fourth Wednesday of every month 207/873-3536. The Bridge serves members of the Colby and Waterville communities as both a social and political medium. Promoting community awareness and knowledge, the Bridge maintains safe and comfortable atmosphere for bisexuals, lesbians, and gays. Group meets on Thursday evenings at 8:00 pm in the Common Ground room of the Student Center. For info call John at 207/872-3686 or Katie at 207/872-3019.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH (CCDH)

813 Washington Avenue
Portland, ME 04103
207/874-1025
CCDH is a non-profit, United Way agency dedicated to providing exceptional dental care to every individual in the community. Fees are on a sliding scale based on the individual's income level. Clinics are located in Portland, Saco, and Auburn Maine. Please call for more information.

DIGNITY/MAINE

P.O. Box 8113
Portland, ME 04104-8113
Organization of gay and lesbian Catholics and their friends. Organized to reinforce our self-acceptance and dignity as people of God, to develop leadership, and to be an instrument through which gay and lesbian Catholics may be heard by the church and society. Group meets on Monday evenings.

DOWN EAST AIDS NETWORK (DEAN)

114 State Street
Ellsworth, ME 04605
207/667-3506 (Bobby Poulin)
A gay positive, community-based, grass roots organization providing education to communities and case management and other support services to those affected by HIV or those working with HIV are held in Ellsworth. For more about information these groups or other services, please call.

DOWNEAST INTEGRITY CHAPTER-IN-FORMATION

C/O Rev Fr. Edwin A. Garrett, III
St. Saviour's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 355
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
207/288-5362
Meets second Monday of the month at St. Saviour's Church. Please call for more information.

EASTERN MAINE AIDS NETWORK (EMAN)

P.O. Box 2038
Bangor, ME 04401-2038
207/990-EMAN
Provides case management services to HIV-infected people and their families in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock, Washington, and Aroostook counties. Support group meets every Thursday evening in Bangor. In addition, EMAN staff are available to provide educational presentations within the same five county area.

THE EON SOCIETY

48 North Main Street
Rochester, NH 03867
603/335-1011
207/636-1158
Services include: support groups; referrals; community education; counseling; the FREE distribution of HIV/AIDS information; more (gay-centered and positive).

FEMINIST SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

9 Deering Street
P.O. Box 3771
Portland, ME 04104-3771
207/797-9217
Meets on Monday evenings.

GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

c/o Williston West Church
32 Thomas Street
Portland, ME 04102
Meets Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

GAY/LESBIAN ALLIANCE

The Powers House
88 Winslow Street
Portland, ME 04103
207/874-6596

GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY NETWORK

P.O. Box 212
Bangor, ME 04401
207/862-5907
207/866-7958
Meets Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

GAY/LESBIAN CONTRA DANCERS

69 Mountain View Avenue
Bangor, ME 04401
207/947-2329

GAY/LESBIAN PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

Portland, Maine
207/780-4085
207/772-4741

GAY/LESBIAN PHONELINE

207/498-2088 TDD/Voice
(Staffed Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 pm)
Accepts TDD and voice messages at all other times
Maine's only service of its kind, the Gay-Lesbian
Phoneline has served the community since 1982.
Operated by Northern Lambda Nord, the Phoneline
provides peer support, information, education, and
referrals for callers.

GAY MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

207/873-4301
207/549-3061
Augusta/Waterville area. Tuesday nights from 6:30
pm - 8:00 pm. Call for details and directions.

HARBOR MASTORS, INC.

P.O. Box 4044
Portland, ME 04101

HEALING SUPPORT GROUP

Kennebunk, ME
207-985-9885
The focus of this group for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals
is to create a safe and supportive environment, coming
together as allies to heal from the oppression and to
reclaim our power and wholeness. Meets biweekly; call
for more information.

INTEGRITY

St. Matthew's Church
18 Union Street
Hallowell, ME 04347
207/623-3041
207/845-2985
Lesbian and Gay Episcopal and their friends. It is a
family within the church, a place to find close
community and support. It offers an opportunity to find
growth, education, and prayer.

LESBIAN AND GAY FREEDOM TRAIL BAND

c/o YWCA - 7th floor
120 Clarendon Street
Boston, MA
617/424-7025 (Kathy)
617/267-6186 (Gary)
508/264-9085 (Zoe)
Meets Tuesday evenings.

LESBIAN/GAY COMMITTEE

Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social
Workers
P.O. Box 5112 - Station A
Portland, ME 04102-5112

LIFESTYLES ALLIANCE CLUB

University of New England Campus
Biddeford, ME
207/283-0171
Advisors: Barbara Hazard and Vern Patterson
An organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and straight
persons. Our organization began in the spring of 1989
out of concern that there was no organization on
campus that dealt with different sexual preferences. We
currently have students from the various colleges
including OT, PT, Medical Students, MSW, and
undergraduate students. Our primary goals include
support and educating others about alternative lifestyles.
All persons are welcome to attend or call to find out
more about our organization. Call Student Affairs Office
for meeting time/location.

MAINE AIDS ALLIANCE

283 Water Street, Third Floor
Augusta, ME 04330
207/621-2924

MAINE BISEXUAL PEOPLE'S NETWORK

P.O. Box 10772
Portland, ME 04104-1792
The purpose of the Maine Bisexual People's Network is
to affirm in ourselves and others the positive nature of
bisexuality and to work toward greater acceptance in
the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities.
Meets 3rd Sunday of each month, 1:00-4:00 p.m., 18
Center St., Brunswick.

MAINE CONNECTION

P.O. Box 5145 - Station A
Portland, ME 04102-5245

THE MAINE HEALTH FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 7329 DTS
Portland, ME 04112-7329
A non-profit, tax-exempt organization that offers both
direct and indirect financial support for people with
AIDS (PWAs) in Maine. Please write for more
information.

MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 232
Hallowell, ME 04347
207/942-3901 (Northern Maine)
207/623-2349 (Capitol & Mid-Coast)
207/646-4872 (Southern Maine)
The Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance has a clear
mission: to exert the power of lesbian and gay citizens
and their supporters through-out the entire state of Maine
on state politics and legislation. Through the generous
support of our members, our families and friends, over
the years we have pursued the mission through a
combination of political action, lobbying and grassroots
mobilization. We work to elect candidates who will
support our civil rights in the Legislature, and to give
civil rights greater prominence in political dialogue. We
promote legislation to end discrimination against
lesbians and gay men, to support the right of women to
choose, to validate our relationships and to ensure an
effective governmental response to the AIDS crisis in
Maine. MLGPA works within our own community and
with our coalition partners to enlist and empower all
people to take a stand for the civil rights of Maine's gay
and lesbian citizens.

THE MATLOVICH SOCIETY

P.O. Box 942
Portland, ME 04101
207/773-4444
An educational and cultural organization of gays and
lesbians committed to sharing our history as well as
providing person-affirming presentations and discussions
in a supportive social environment. Regular meetings of
the Society: 7:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Rines
Auditorium, Portland Public Library.

MERRYMEETING AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. Box 57
Brunswick, ME 04011-0057
207/725-4955
Provides support services to PWA's, those with HIV
disease, and their family and friends. MASS also
provides education services free of charge to the greater
Bath/Brunswick community. MASS also has "buddies"
available for PWA's and HIV+.

MIDCOAST MAINE PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG)

18 Douglas Street
Brunswick, ME 04011
Information and HELPLINE:
207-729-0519
(Information & HELPLINE: Sally and Gene)
Literature for and about parents. Coming Out materials.
Speakers. Contacts with over 300 chapters.

MONADNOCK AREA WOMYN (MAW)

P.O. Box 6345
Keene, NH 03431
A lesbian social/service organization since 1987.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY MEN (MVM)

P.O. Box 36
Center Conway, NH 03813-0036
207/925-1034 (Paul)
A social group for gay men from western Maine and
eastern New Hampshire. We meet at each others'
homes for Pot Luck and plan activities as the members
desire. Write or call for more information.

NEW BRUNSWICK COALITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS REFORMS

P.O. Box 1556
Station A
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5G2
Canada

THE NORSEMEN

P.O. Box 56
Chocorua, NH 03817
603/367-8304
A leather club for gay and bisexual men from North
Central New Hampshire, The Greater Portland and
Western Maine area of good will who are into the
leather and western scene and its amenities. For more
information write to The Norsemen, P.O. Box 56,
Chocorua, NH 03817 or call 603/367-8304

NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD

P.O. Box 990
Caribou, ME 04736-0990
207/498-2088
Maine's oldest organization for lesbian-gay-bisexual
people, NLN (founded 1980) serves Aroostook County
and neighboring New Brunswick towns; sponsors social
activities, discussion groups, and a speakers bureau;
publishes a monthly newsletter and activities calendar;
has a 1000-volume lending library for members;
operates Maine's only phone service, the Gay-Lesbian
Phoneline.

GREATER PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN

c/o YWCA
87 Spring Street
Portland, ME 04101
207/879-0877 (Perry Krasow)
An action-oriented group. Our primary goals are three-
fold: [1] to foster Equal Rights for women; [2] to insure
unrestricted choice around reproductive rights; [3] to
support Lesbian and Gay rights. We have speakers and
events for the public on the fourth Tuesday of every
month.

OUR PAPER

9 Deering Street
P.O. Box 737
Portland, ME 04104
207/761-0733
Our purpose is to serve as a voice for the lesbians and
gay men in Maine. We are made up of a group of
dedicated volunteers who wish to broaden the
understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. New
volunteers are welcomed and needed!

OUT AND ABOUT

P.O. Box 695
Cape Neddick, ME 03902
Keryn at 603/749-5852
Out and About, a Lesbian social and support group,
meets every Thursday at 7 pm in Portsmouth, NH. New
members welcome. Call Keryn at 603/659-2139 or
write P.O. Box 332, Portsmouth, NH 03802 for more
information.

OUT FOR GOOD

First Parish Church
15 Beach Street
Saco, ME

Out For Good, a lesbian discussion/support group, meets each Thursday at the First Parish Church from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. This non-smoking meeting deals with issues relevant to the lesbian lifestyle. Meetings are free, but a \$1 donation is requested to defray the cost of the room. Meetings are confidential. For further information call Bobbi after 5:30 pm at 247-3461.

OUTRIDERS MAINE

207/767-3825

OutRiders Maine, a bicycle club for lesbian women and gay men, meets each Thursday from the start of daylight savings time through the end of September at 5:30 pm at Back Cove parking lot in Portland. Bicyclists of all experience levels are encouraged to participate. Riding time will be from sixty to ninety minutes, after which we will gather at Raff's on Forest Avenue for refreshment.

OUTRIGHT

P.O. Box 802
Portland, ME 04212
207/795-6677
800/339-4042

Support Group for Lesbian and Gay Youth (22 years of age and younger). The purpose of this group is to offer area gay and lesbian youths with a safe, supervised social environment where they can provide each other with information and support.

PORTLAND PRIDE

P.O. Box 681
Scarborough, ME 04074-0681

POSITIVELY SOBER

TLRN
377 Cumberland Avenue
207/871-9211

Meets Tuesdays at 8:00 pm for those recovering AAs living with HIV or AIDS.

PRIME TIMERS OF BOSTON

P.O. Box 18-0010
Boston, MA 02118-0001
617/262-8658

An organization for older gay males that meet monthly on the third Saturday of every month from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. See Calendar section for change in location and schedule (if any).

PWA COALITION OF MAINE

377 Cumberland Avenue
Portland, ME 04101
207/773-8500

R.A.G. (RURAL ACTIVITIES GUIDE)

P.O. Box 3293

North Conway, NH 03860

A quarterly newsletter for the women's community of western Maine and the Mount Washington Valley of New Hampshire. Subscription is \$12.00 per year, first issue free.

RUMFORD/MEXICO AREA AIDS SUPPORT GROUP

c/o Community AIDS Awareness Program
207/369-0259

Group meets Monday evenings at the Mexico Congregational Church (the "Green Church") from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

SEACOAST GAY MEN (SGM, Inc.)

P.O. Box 1394
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801-1394
603/898-2225 [Al]

A social group for gay men meeting weekly on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm (except holidays). The first Monday of the month is a potluck supper. Remaining Monday's are given to a wide variety of presentations, discussions, discussions, films, etc.

SEXUAL MINORITY ISSUES COMMITTEE

Maine Chapter, National Association of Social Workers
c/o Community Counseling Center
343 Forest Avenue
Portland, ME 04101
207/874-1030

A committee working to advocate for the needs of lesbians, gay men, and other sexual minorities through education and networking.

TEEN WALK-IN CLINIC

Planned Parenthood
500 Forest Avenue
Portland, ME 04104
207/874-1110
207/772-6521 (fax)

We offer birth control, pregnancy testing, STD screening and treatment, Pap smears. Confidential services; fees based on ability to pay. Fridays, 1:00 - 4:30 pm. We also continue to offer our popular Saturday walk-in, 9-12 am.

"TIME OUT!"

P.O. Box 11502
Portland, ME 04104
207/883-6934
603/749-1449

Outdoor recreational and environmental events for the gay and lesbian community of Maine and New Hampshire. All levels — beginner to expert — welcome. Call for newsletter.

TRANSUPPORT

P.O. Box 17622
Portland, ME 04101

Transupport is a non-profit, non-sexual, social and educational peer support group for Transsexuals, cross-dressers, and their families and friends who desire a better understanding of gender-related issues. Meetings are held bi-monthly on Sundays at 6:00 pm. Write for location and more information.

UMF GASPP ALLIANCE LESBIGAY INFORMATION SERVICE

207/778-7380

The UMF GASPP Alliance Lesbigen Information Service plays a recorded message announcing meetings, social events, and services available in Central Maine. The line is not staffed regularly, but callers desiring further information will have their calls returned. All messages left on the electronic answering service are completely confidential.

USM WOMEN'S FORUM

University of Southern Maine
92 Bedford Street
Portland, ME 04103

WALDO-KNOX AIDS COALITION

P.O. Box 956
Belfast, ME 04915
207/338-1427

Support groups for PWA's, HIV positive, family, friends and care givers.

3rd Monday of each month, 6:45 pm — Group for anyone affected by AIDS/HIV. Meets in Belfast.

Every other Thursday — Mother's Group. For mothers of people with AIDS/HIV or who have died of AIDS. Meets in Belfast. Margie Spencer Smith, LCSW, facilitator.

Thursdays at 7:15 pm — PWA/HIV Support Group. Facilitated by Dr. Jean Tracy, LCSW, in the Rockland area. Call WKAC at 207/338-1427 or Alan at 207/338-3135.

WILDE-STEIN CLUB

Memorial Union
University of Maine — Orono
Orono, ME 04469

WOMLAND TRUST INC.

P.O. Box 55
Troy, ME 04987-0055

A non-profit organization whose purpose is to acquire land throughout the state to protect it for use by current and future generations of women and children. Meetings Second Sunday every month. Location varies.

**REGISTER
YOUR
GROUP
NOW!**

Send information about
your group for our next
publication of the
Lesbigen Network.
Include an address and/or
phone number, as well as a
brief description.

Our Paper
Attn: Lesbigen Network
PO Box 737
Portland, ME 04104

NEWS

continued from page 9

his car, demanded money, and began ransacking his car.

"At that point," Evans told Q-Notes, "I must have sounded very effeminate or something because one of them said, 'He's a faggot — let's kill him'." Then, without hesitation, two of them shot me two times each."

Evans said that with bullets in his jaw, left shoulder, thigh, and rib cage, he slumped into a drainage ditch at the roadside and remained motionless. After his assailants stole his car and left the scene, Evans said that he sought assistance from a man in a nearby home, who called paramedics.

Police have apprehended Willie Leon Walker, Cedric Jermaine Moore, and Robin Maont Harris in connection with the shooting. The three teens are currently in jail awaiting trial.

NEW CALIFORNIA RIGHTS BILL PASSES STATE ASSEMBLY

SACRAMENTO, CA — A new version of the gay rights bill vetoed last fall by Gov. Pete Wilson has passed the state Assembly in a close vote.

Republicans said the measure would give special rights to lesbians and gay men, but the author, Assemblyman Terry Friedman (D-Sherman Oaks), said most Californians support the bill.

"All this measure is about is simple fundamental fairness — that a person's ability to get and keep a job should be based on experience and qualifications and not on lawful private behavior," he said.

But Assemblyman David Knowles (R-Cameron Park), said the bill would "mandate acceptance of a disgusting and repugnant lifestyle."

The bill was sent to the Senate on May 15 by a 42-30 vote, one more than the bare majority needed for passage in the 80-member house.

The legislature last year passed Friedman's bill that would have added sexual orientation to the list of protected items such as race, gender, and age and prohibited job discrimination based on it.

The Republican governor vetoed the bill, saying in part that the existing state Labor Code protected gays and lesbians from job discrimination.

ENTERTAINMENT GIANT GIVES EMPLOYEES DOMESTIC PARTNERS BENEFITS

LOS ANGELES — Entertainment giant MCA Inc. has agreed to extend health benefits to employees' same sex partners. It's the first large company in its industry to do so, gay advocates said.

MCA said May 15 that employees with same-sex partners can apply for family-style health benefits if they can demonstrate a long-term commitment to their partner.

MCA didn't say how many of its 16,000 employees qualified or how much the program would cost. Unmarried couples of the opposite sex aren't included.

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HATE CRIMES

continued from page 6

the decision will have an impact on existing laws in Maine that protect minorities.

Maine does not have a law that specifically prohibits hate speech aimed at minorities. However, Mark Dion stated that were a Klansman to utilize hate speech directed at minorities, the Portland Police would be able to use other criminal statutes to deal with the situation.

The essence of the Court's decision is that a state cannot punish speakers who express disfavored viewpoints. Justice Antonin Scalia, author of the Court's opinion, wrote, "The First Amendment does not permit St. Paul to impose special prohibitions on those speakers who express views on disfavored subjects....In its practical operation...the ordinance goes even beyond mere content discrimination, to actual viewpoint discrimination...St. Paul has no such authority to license one side of the debate to fight freestyle, while requiring the other to follow Marquis of Queensbury Rules."

Even though the Court was unanimous in its judgment, four Justices disagreed strongly with the reasoning of the majority, though they thought the ordinance was unconstitutionally overbroad. Writing in a separate opinion, Justice Stevens said, "I see no First Amendment values that are compromised by a law that prohibits hoodlums from driving minorities out of their homes by burning crosses on their lawns, but I see great harm in preventing the people of St. Paul from specifically punishing the race-based fighting words that so prejudice their community."

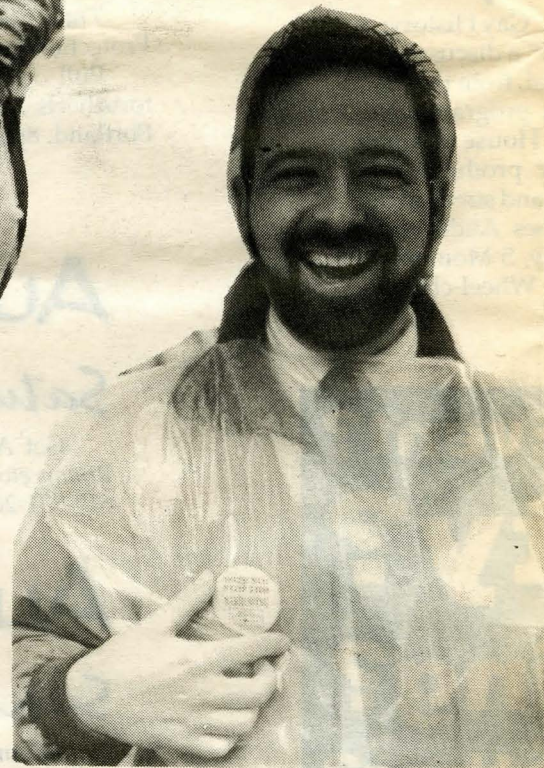
It is believed that this decision could be the first step in striking down hate crime laws which provide harsher penalties to those who are guilty of assault and other crimes against minorities. Several states, including Massachusetts, have such laws.

Opponents of increased penalties for hate crimes say that a person ought to be punished only for what he or she did, not for why he or she did it. These laws, critics maintain, creates "thought crimes" and punish people for having unpopular views.

Supporters of hate crime laws disagree. Since the offender is motivated by not only hatred toward the individual victim for being a minority, but also the entire minority as a group, the damage done by a hate crime should not be measured by the damage done to the individual alone. The entire minority community experiences the threat and violence of a single attack on one of its members.

Nevertheless, some supporters of hate crime laws say that they can go too far, like the St. Paul ordinance, which made the display of prejudice a crime. ■

Drenched With



Pride

Scenes from Portland's Gay Pride March

photos by Kara La Lomia & Holly Valero



NEWS

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Civil rights attorney Gloria R. Allred said the policy is a step forward, but is unfair to heterosexual couples who "also have serious commitments but have good reasons for not marrying."

Movie and TV conglomerate MCA is a subsidiary of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Japan's largest consumer electronics company. Universal Pictures, an MCA subsidiary, is one of the seven major U.S. movie distributors. MCA film properties included *E.T.*, *The Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jaws*, and *Back to the Future*.

FDA APPROVE 10-MINUTE HIV TEST

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration approved a new AIDS test that can be done in a doctor's office and produce results in 10 minutes, the agency announced May 26.

The company said clinical trials showed the tests' accuracy ratings were above 99 percent.

Current tests, which detect the presence of HIV antibodies, take hours and often have to be sent away to a lab for processing. The company said this test can be run in a doctor's office, clinic, or hospital by people who have had minimal training. It requires no special equipment.

The test involves mixing some of the patient's blood with a chemical substance and then running it through a couple of other steps. In the end, if the result is positive, the solution at the bottom of the test tub should turn blue.

The company cautioned that if the test comes up positive, the result still needs to be confirmed by using other tests.

LESBIAN PROSTITUTE TO DIE FOR KILLING HER TRICKS

A lesbian prostitute who admitted killing seven middle-age men who picked her up while she hitchhiked on Florida highways was sentenced to death last week for three of the killings.

When the sentences were announced in court, Aileen Wuornos, 36, told the jury, "Thank you. I'll go to heaven and you all will rot in hell."

Although she admitted to the murders, she said that she killed the men only after they became abusive to her. In an hour-long statement read in court, she said that her treatment at the hands of the legal system was "sending society the message that a woman who defends herself is likely to end up on Death Row. . . . They're saying that male dominance is okay and woe to the woman who takes action against a violent man."

Earlier, testimony was presented that Wuornos had boasted of the murders to her lover.

GAO REPORT ON WASTEFUL PENTAGON ANTI-GAY POLICY RELEASED

WASHINGTON, DC — Three senior members of Congress released a major new study June 19 that disclosed the

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NEWS NEWS NEWS

NATIONAL

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Pentagon wastes tens of millions of tax dollars annually implementing an anti-gay discrimination policy that lacks any specific justification.

The General Accounting Office (GAO), an independent watchdog arm of the Congress, undertook the comprehensive two-year review of the Department of Defense policy on homosexuality following a request by openly gay Congressman Gerry Studds (D-MA), together with congressman Ted Weiss (D-NY) and John Conyers (D-MI).

"The Pentagon's anti-gay policy has destroyed distinguished careers, tuned well-qualified Americans away from military service, and shattered the lives of patriotic gays and lesbians who wish to serve their country," said Rep. Studds. "Now we know the financial expense of this inexcusable policy is as staggering as its human cost."

Examining Defense Department data from 1980 through 1990, the 143-page GAO report found the various service branches discharged an average of 1,500 persons each year simply for being gay. The military utilized three separate agencies — the Army's Criminal Investigation Command, the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations, and the Naval Investigative Service — to conduct at least 3,663 investigations for homosexuality during the last five years reviewed by the GAO. Women were discharged at a widely disproportionate rate. Enlisted personnel made up almost all of the homosexual discharged, because officers were frequently given the option of resigning.

The Pentagon failed to respond to GAO questions about how much the Defense Department spends to remove lesbians and gay men. The General Accounting Office has calculated the cost to the government of recruiting and training re-

placements for the lesbians and gay men discharged in 1990 at \$27 million.

"We always knew the anti-gay policy was wrong," said Studds. "Now we also know what we had suspected: that it is also a colossal waste of our money."

ACT UP PLANS ACTION FOR REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

On August 17, AIDS activists from across the United States will converge on Houston, Texas in a direct challenge to George Bush and the Republican Party.

Members of ACT UP and other AIDS activist organizations will meet in Houston during the Republican National Convention to carry out an entire week of protests designed to expose the inadequacy of the response of the past three Republican administrations in dealing with the AIDS crisis.

A march throughout Houston to the Astrodome, the site of the convention, is planned for Monday, August 17. On each day of the rest of the week, smaller groups will rove about the city focusing on other targets, such as the Republican senators and representatives and convention delegates.

LARGEST AIDS MOBILIZATION PLANNED FOR WASHINGTON

The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, in its largest form, will be displayed over the weekend of October 9-11 in conjunction with the largest gathering of AIDS-related service organizations and volunteers. The weekend activities are expected to attract 300,000 visitors.

When first displayed in Washington, D.C. in October 1987, the Quilt consisted of 1,920 panels. Today it covers nearly 10 football fields—approximately 29 acres.

The display of the Quilt will begin on Friday, October 9 at 10:00 a.m. with the traditional unfolding ceremony and reading of names.

BAPTISTS OUST TWO CHURCHES FOR THEIR PRO-GAY STANCES

The Southern Baptist Convention ousted two churches from the organization last week for accepting open gays in their congregations, the *New York Times* reported on June 11.

The group voted to expell the two churches during a meeting in Indianapolis last week. The predominantly white religious organization of 15.2 million members also voted to change the organization's bylaws to exclude any churches which accept open gays in the future.

The convention expelled the Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC for blessing a gay male union last March. It also dismissed the Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, NC for ordaining a gay minister.

The convention adopted a resolution which said that the stances of the two churches on gays were "contrary to the teachings of the Bible on human sexuality and the sanctity of the family and are offensive to Southern Baptists," according to the *Times*.

At Binkley Memorial, seven of the church's 20 deacons have resigned since the expulsions. Binkley Memorial also rescinded a statement on homosexuality it had adopted after the ordination of a gay divinity student, according to a June 16 Post report. The statement said that a person's sexual orientation should not be a factor in ordinations. However, officials at the church said that the statement was rescinded because of procedural errors and not because of the actions of the convention.

"It is a blessed separation," said W.F. Highfill, a Pullen Memorial member and retired North Carolina State professor of religion and philosophy. Highfill said he is happy to see the church and the convention go their separate ways.

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THE STRAIGHT & NARROW, continued from page 8

disappoint either. Extra plus is the video editing, which provides some wonderful visuals and brilliant color.

Where's the Beefcake Award What Can I Do With A Male Nude

Ron Peck's short comedy literally focuses on the challenge of photographing a male nude without showing his...well...you know. The neurotic voice-over of the unseen photographer is definitely tongue in cheek. This satire of British uptightness stripped away all the veils, but one.

Tell It Like It Is Award Catching Fire

It's wonderful to find a short film that doesn't overstay its welcome. *Catching Fire*, with its poignant flashbacks, chronicles the resolution between a family and the surviving partner of a man who has died of AIDS. As a short film it was thought provoking.

Turkey of the Festival Madame X

"A call goes out around the world. Madame X seeks women who are through with security and conventional lives. The participants in her adventure make up a kind of rag-tag, alternative and flamboyant pirate navy!" Sounds great, doesn't it? In a word? Awful! This 141 minute German film was obviously untouched by the scissors of any editor. Klunky, dreadful, long, boring, and just plain weird describe it well. At one point, about 50 people left at once. Saving grace? Every festival should have a token turkey and this one came at the end of an evening of fun films. SABATOS dance club next door filled up about an hour early and the music and company was great.

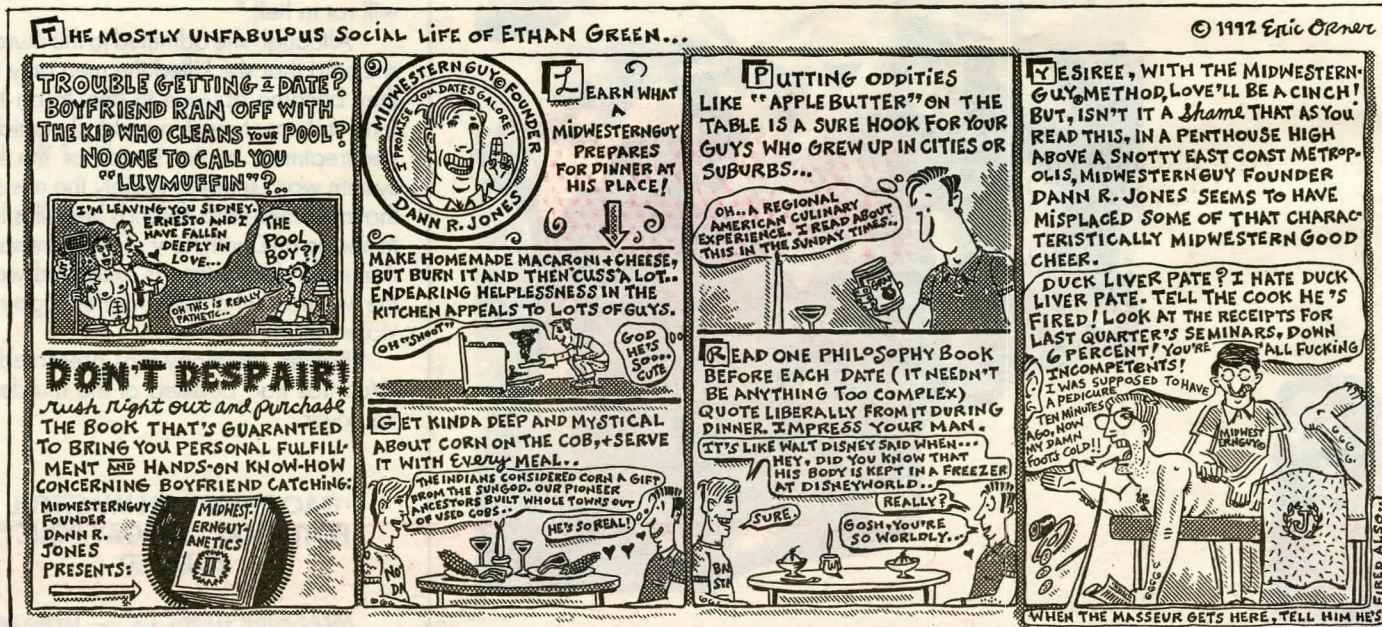
Classiest Documentary Visions of the Spirit: A Portrait of Alice Walker

Down to earth, warm, classy, and powerful describe both the woman and the film.

Best Idea for a Short Film Award RSVP

Music is the star of this film that follows the reactions of several friends upon hearing Jessye Norman sing from *Le Nuit d'ete*, a musical request sent in to a radio station by a man whose request outlived him.

continued on page 15



SAFER
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THE STRAIGHT & NARROW, continued from page 14

Most Politically Incorrect Film *Nice Girls Don't Do It*

Highly touted, this B.Y.O.S. (bring your own snorkel) view of female ejaculation was thought to be so disturbing or inflammatory that a discussion group was held directly afterward. The reaction of the audience, however, seemed to lean toward the "big deal" response. The film itself was worth the coming...so to speak, but I wish the action on the screen had shown more than one woman masturbating. As one person in the audience responded, "Hell, I can see that at home!"

Best of the Bad German Films *Maedchen in Uniform*

Manuela has been sent to a very strict...and I mean very strict...school for girls where everything is in black and white. Another in the endless lesbian parade of "love that dares not speak its name films," (Oh, speak the damn name, will you?) Manuela falls in love with her governess in the school, Fraulein von Bernburg — a woman who gives a good night kiss to her charges that make the weak gruel and endless military-like atmosphere seem like a day at the parade. The school girl angst is almost too much to bear and Manuela *nearly* — you guessed it — leaps to her death from a stairway. She decides to faint instead. I think there was some cinematic allusion to a Vulcan Mind Link between Manuela and the gorgeous Governess. It was good by virtue of the fact that considering the earlier German films, I wasn't expecting much.

Worst Title *No Skin Off My Ass*

I thought this love story between a classic hairdresser faggot and his skinhead boyfriend would be dreadful. Instead, it was actually kind of cute and unpretentious. The dyke sister was also fun to watch. If this one is available to rent, you may want to track it down.

A Few Last Words...

My only suggestion for the film festival? Is it at all possible to have it in March or April? Those are the *cruelest* months and I find it emotionally wrenching to commit a full weekend in June to sitting in a cool dark place when sunshine is as valuable as gold.

I can't wait till next year! ■

continued from page 14

JEANS GIANT TAKES ON THE BOY SCOUTS

SAN FRANCISCO — Levis Strauss & Co. is drawing fire from a conservative activist group after announcing it would cease funding the Boy Scouts because of the organization's anti-gay policies.

Associated press reported that the American Family Association, a Mississippi-based "anti-pornography group," is directing a boycott of the clothing manufacturer's products including its line of immensely popular jeans.

"The fact that they would penalize the Boy Scouts for refusing to accept opening practicing homosexual as scout masters shows they no longer want the business of a majority of Americans," AFA President Donald Wildmon told AP. "Now they intend to try to pressure the Boy Scouts and others to bow down to their pro-homosexual agenda."

But Levi spokesperson Mary Gross said that the company's non-discrimination policies prevent it from funding organizations that engage in discrimination, including discrimination against gays. Levi Strauss made its funding decision public in early May.

"We will no longer be able to provide support to the Boy Scouts of America as long as their discriminatory policies and practices remain in place," Gross told AP. "It's not that we are discriminating against them — since we learned of the conflict in their policy and our policy, we can no longer support them."

Gross would not specify exactly how much the company donated to the Boy Scouts. Wildmon, however, estimated the figure to be between \$40,000 and \$80,000.

k.d. OUT!

LOS ANGELES — You always knew it was true, but now it's confirmed — k.d.

lang is a lesbian.

In an interview in the *Advocate*, published June 2, lang talks publicly for the first time about being a lesbian, and her unrequited love for a married woman.

The article's author, Brendan Lemon, an editor and writer at *The New Yorker*, says lang appeared comfortable talking about the life that she's kept private until now.

"This interview was clearly the end process of a lot of soul searching on her part," says Lemon.

"The second half of the interview is devoted to the struggle she's had trying to reconcile her own privacy, especially her mother's and at the same time not be dishonest about this aspect of her life."

CLINTON ATTACKS PEROT FOR 'LACK OF TOLERANCE'

NEW YORK, NY — Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton on the *Today Show* Tuesday, June 9, attacked Texas billionaire H. Ross Perot for what he called an apparent "lack of tolerance" because of Perot's statements that he would not appoint gays or adulterers to top government posts if he's elected president. "I think the American people don't want a permissive president or a permissive society," Clinton said. "But they do want a tolerant president and a tolerant country. There ought to be a presumption that people should be able to serve their country in the absence of some evidence to the contrary, whether in the military or in government service or in any other way."

MURDERER GETS 45 YEARS

HOUSTON — A knife-wielding teenager who participated in this city's most brutal gay-related murder was sentenced this month to 45 years in prison.

Jon Christopher Buice, 18, received the sentence May 11 in connection with the murder of Paul Broussard, a gay man.

According to the Houston gay weekly *The New Voice*, Broussard was attacked as he was leaving gay bar last July 4. A gang of young men severely beat him with a board that had nails in it, and stabbed him twice in the stomach. Police later arrested Buice and nine other suspects in connection with the killing.

In statements to police, Buice said that the young men — all in their late teens or early 20s — had entered the heavily-gay Montrose section of the city with the specific intention of assaulting gay men.

Buice agreed to a plea bargain in connection with the case, opting for a 45-year sentence rather than face a trial by jury. Anderson said that Buice's action was "Highly unusual."

Buice admitted to using the knife in the slaying, it stated that he "acted along" with the nine other men, the *Voice* reported. Two of the co-defendants were in the courtroom at the time of Buice's sentencing, and "sat stone-faced, huddled in a rear corner of the room, shielding their faces with newspapers from observers and the press."

The sentence, said Anderson, alerts the suspects "that this kind of crime will not be tolerated, and the people in Harris county won't tolerate it."

South Texas gay men and lesbians turning out in force to protest Broussard's slaying. The expressions of anger led police to bring an undercover patrol of the Montrose section. At least one police officer was attacked and seriously injured during that investigation.

Buice's plea bargain agreement means that he may become eligible for parole as early as 2003.

The News was written and compiled by Paul Lavin. Sources for the News this month came from Bay Windows, Philadelphia Gay News, The Washington Blade, and the Bangor Daily News.

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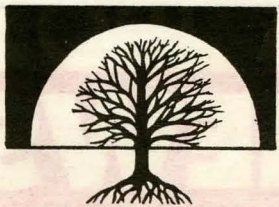
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THE NAMES PROJECT P.O. Box 4319, Portland. 774-2198.

RUMFORD/MEXICO AREA AIDS SUPPORT GROUP c/o Community Aids Awareness Program, (207) 369-0259. Group meets Monday evenings at the Mexico Congregational Church (the "Green Church") from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

HIV ANTIBODY COUNSELING AND TESTING. Voluntary-Anonymous-Low Cost. The AIDS Project offers trained counselors to answer your questions and address concerns about possible infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). To schedule a counseling session call (207) 774-6877 daily from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Monday and Wednesday evenings between 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. NOTE: Counseling and testing is done by appointment only.

44 CLUBS/BARS

SPORTMAN'S ATHLETIC CLUB, 2 Bates Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240. Second Floor Balcony Bar and Dance Floor (207) 2251.

PAPA JOE'S, 80 Water Street, Augusta, Maine, Tuesday-Saturday, 7-1 (207) 623-4041.

THE LIMELIGHT, 3 Spring Street, Portland. (207) 773-3315.

BLACKSTONE'S, 6 Pine Street, Portland. (207) 772-9244.

SIDETRAXX, 34 Temple Street, Waterville, ME (207) 873-5610. Open Wednesday - Sunday, 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. A non-discriminatory bar.

THE ALTERNATIVE, 1425 Lisbon Street, Lewiston. (207) 782-4242.

THE RIVERFRONT, 123 Franklin Street, Bangor, Maine 04401. (207) 947-1213. Wednesday-Sunday 7:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

SAFER SEX AND DRUG USE GUIDELINES

These guidelines are for all of us who are making decisions about sexual activity and drug use in the midst of the AIDS epidemic.

HIV is a virus widely thought to be a cause of AIDS. The highest concentrations of HIV are found in blood and semen, so it's important to avoid any way in which HIV-infected blood or semen can get from one person's body into another person's bloodstream.

♦ Fucking (anal and vaginal) without a condom and sharing needles account for almost all the documented cases of HIV transmission.

♦ Oral sex without a condom or dental dam accounts for a very few documented cases of HIV transmission.

♦ Other ways of transmitting HIV that have not been documented but which could be theoretically risky include: fisting, finger fucking, rimming, deep kissing, sharing uncleaned dildos. The theory here is that any way HIV-infected bodily fluids get from one person into another involves risk. For example, HIV could be transmitted if a person with a cut on their hand fistfucked their partner and caused bleeding in their rectum or vagina.

HOW TO PLAY SAFER

Only you can decide what risks you are willing to take. Some people use safer sex practices with all their partners. Other people make decisions about the risks they are willing to take based on their own and their partners' sexual and drug use history and/or HIV status. People also make decisions based on how comfortable they feel negotiating safer sex in any particular situation. If you and your partner have not talked about past practices and/or HIV status, don't make assumptions. (For example, many lesbians have had unprotected intercourse with a man in the last ten years.)

♦ Use a condom when fucking. On the condoms, use water-based lubricants like KY. Oil-based lubricants like Crisco, Vaseline, and baby oil may make condoms break.

♦ Use a condom when sucking dick if your partner is going to come in your mouth. If HIV-infected cum or pre-cum gets in your mouth, it may get in your bloodstream through cuts in your gums or sores in your mouth.

♦ Use dental dams (latex squares) when going down on a woman if she is having her period or has a vaginal infection. Menstrual blood and secretions from vaginal infections have more HIV than healthy vaginal secretions or urine. No information has been gathered about the concentration of HIV in "female ejaculate."

♦ Use latex gloves for fisting or finger-fucking if you have any sores or cuts on your hands.

♦ Keep semen and blood (including menstrual blood and blood drawn from piercing, cutting, or shaving) out of your vagina, anus, mouth, or breaks in your skin.

♦ If you share dildos, vibrators, or other sex toys, use a new condom each time, or clean toys with hydrogen peroxide or soap and water.

♦ Alternative insemination may put you at risk. Discuss this risk with potential donors or sperm banks.

♦ Massage, hugging, dirty talk, role-playing, masturbation (solo, with a partner, in a group) and other activities that don't let blood or semen into your bloodstream are safe.

♦ Alcohol, poppers, or other drugs may lower your ability to make good decisions. Many people have reported that they have been unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.

♦ Good nutrition, lots of rest, exercise, and non-abuse of alcohol and other drugs may help you fight all illnesses, including AIDS.

INTRAVENOUS DRUG USE

♦ Don't share work (needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons, or cookers)!

♦ If you must share or re-use works, clean them before and after each injection as follows: dip the needle and works into bleach, draw up and release three times, dip needle and works into fresh water, draw up and release three times. In an emergency, rubbing alcohol or vodka can be used instead of bleach, or you can boil works that aren't plastic in water for at least 15 minutes. (Use a fresh solution each time you clean your works.)

MAINE RESOURCE NUMBERS

AIDS Line: 207/775-1267 or 800/851-AIDS

AIDS Project, The: Portland, ME, 207/774-6877

AIDS Support Group: Bath, ME, 207/725-4955

Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: Lewiston, ME, 207/795-4029

Augusta Area HIV+ Support Group: Gardiner, ME, 207/777-1701 (Steve) or 207/371-2147 (Cecilia)

Down East AIDS Network (DEAN): Blue Hill, ME, 207/326-8580 (Tracy)

Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC): New York, NY, 212/807-6655

Maine Health Foundation: Portland, ME, 207/773-3564

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: Brunswick, ME, 207/725-4955

National AIDS Hotline: 800/342-7514

National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC): Washington, DC, 202/544-1076

Rumford/Mexico Area AIDS Support Group: 207/369-0259

Support Group for Women with AIDS, ARC, or who are HIV+: Portland, ME, 207/774-6877

Waldo/Knox AIDS Coalition: PO Box 956, Belfast, ME, 04915, 207/338-1427

Women's AIDS Network: San Francisco, CA, 415/864-4376

As the AIDS epidemic continues, it's up to each of us to act responsibly.

SUBSCRIBE!

More Classifieds...

THE CHART ROOM SALOON, 117 Spring Street, Portland. (207) 774-9262.

SABATOS, 29 Forest Avenue (behind Zootz), Portland, ME 04101.

46 POLITICAL GROUPS

MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE, P.O. Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347. We're working for change... You can make it happen!

49 ATTORNEYS/LAW

MILES D. FRIEDEN, BRENDA BUCHANAN Legal Services for Our Community. PO Box 331 Mt. Ephraim Rd., Searsport, ME 04974. (207) 548-6689.

55 NEW AGE/SPIRITUALITY

AN INSIGHTFUL MEDITATION RETREAT FOR WOMEN EXPLORING FEMINISM AND BUDDHISM led by Arinna Weisman. Periods of silence in meditation, movement, group sharing, and ritual. July 31-August 2. Tenants Harbour, ME. \$71.00-\$91.00. FMI call (207) 354-6930. (PA7)

66 COUNSELING

BELLVILLE COUNSELING ASSOCIATES OF MAINE announcing groups with openings for gay men dealing with co-dependency, ACOA, sexual abuse and addiction issues; men and women dealing with sex and love addiction issues. 8 Stanwood Street, P.O. Box 186, Brunswick, Maine 04011-0186. (207) 729-8727.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (PFLAG) P.O. Box 2080, Great Island, Brunswick, ME 04011. (207) 729-9843, (207) 729-0519.

WOMEN SURVIVORS DISCUSSION GROUP An on-going, open and facilitated weekly women survivors discussion group for adult women survivors of childhood sexual abuse/incest is now forming at WOMENSPACE COUNSELING CENTER in Portland. Suggested sliding scale fee is \$7 - \$10 per group meeting. For more information call Vivian Wadas, M.A. at 871-0377.

67 MAIL ORDER

SPELLBOUND — GAY/OCCULT BOOKS AND MERCHANDISE. Catalog \$2.00. SPELLBOUND, P.O. Box 156, W. Nottingham, NH 03291. (PA8)

69 PHONE SERVICES

CONNECTIONS U.S.A. — Talking Personals, 1-900-407-3900 (\$2/minute). Thousands of voice ads. Dozens of categories. Hot dates and friends. Phone numbers or Voicemail. Why settle for less? Meet Americans or Canadians, 1-800-669-DATE. (\$2/minute + .50 service charge per call.) Touch-Tone phone required; have your VISA/MC ready.

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Lewiston — Bates College
Damariscotta — Laughing Moon

Are you gay and under 22 years old?

OUTRIGHT

Portland Alliance of Gay & Lesbian Youth
PO Box 5028, Station A
Portland, Maine 04101

For more information, call Ingraham Volunteers.
Dial-INFO: 774-HELP (a 24-hour hotline)

- or -

If you're 19 or under, you can also call Dial-KIDS: 774-TALK
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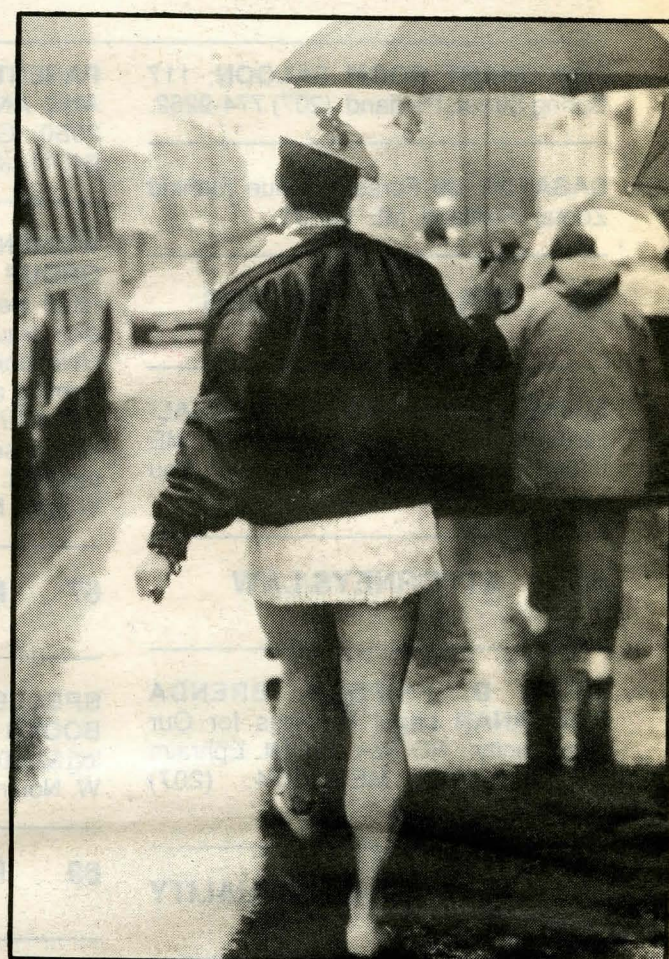
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Kara La Lomia

Date Printed:
July 6, 1992



Planets

"A UNIVERSE OF GREAT FOOD"

Dinners: All dinners come with salad, rolls and butter. If you want a lighter meal, skip the salad and we'll take two dollars off.

Sauteed chicken breast with asian blackbean, garlic and scallions sauces. Served with rice and vegetable. \$9.95

Thai noodles with red curry sauce and assorted vegetables. with tofu \$7.95, with chicken \$8.95

Pan blackened chicken breast with remoulade served in a flour tortilla. With rice and vegetables. \$8.95

Korean-style BBQ porkchops with seared vegetables and rice. Served with kimchee. \$8.95

Steamed vegetables and tofu. Comes with rice and soy-ginger sauce. \$7.95.

Grilled top sirloin with grilled peppers and onions. With roasted potato spears and vegetables. \$11.95

Indian-style chicken in curry sauce. With chutney, flatbread, rice, and vegetables. \$9.95

Roast turkey with mashed potatoes, vegetables, gravy, and apple-cranberry compote. \$8.95

Frittata-Italian style omelet with tomatoes, mushrooms, onions, and provolone. Served with pesto and bruschetta. \$7.95

Focaccia with chopped fresh tomatoes, red onions, and olive tapenade dressing. \$4.95

Vegetarian potsticker with tofu, broccoli, bok choy, scallions, garlic and peppers. Served with soy-ginger dressing. \$3.95

Quesadilla with cheddar and cilantro. Served with blackbean salsa and sour cream on shredded lettuce. \$3.95

Cesar salad with fresh grated parmesan and bruschetta. \$3.95.

Southwestern-style fajita salad with grilled sirloin, salsa, cheddar, shaved lettuce and assorted vegetables. Served with flour tortillas. \$5.95

Lebanese salad plate with hummus, lentil-rice salad, red onions, chopped tomatoes and pita bread. \$4.95

Angel hair pasta with pesto cream and sundried tomatoes. Served with fresh grated parmesan and bruschetta. \$6.95

Pizza: Crisp sourdough crust with choice of sauce or fresh tomato. \$5.95. Basic pizza comes with provolone cheese. Extras \$1

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serving daily - 5pm - 11pm -- closed sundays and mondays

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